■ Across / A18

Siege of Malacañang in Cebu stopped after protesters clash with gov't troops

■ Business / B1

Fedex leaves Subic Bay for new regional hub in China

■ Across / A17

No more slaughter of soft-shelled turtles for 'pulutan'

■ News / A2

Get Garci, solons order law enforcers

■ Metro / A24

Beauty surgeons to the stars face tax-related raps

Cory told to fix Kris' love affairs, not affairs of state

NO HITTING BELOW THE BELT

By Armand N. Nocum

FORMER President Cory Aquino should first take care of the love affairs of her youngest daughter Kris before trying to fix the affairs of state.

CORY TOLD/ A7

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Moody's mood negative on RP; ADB warns Manila

By Doris Dumlao

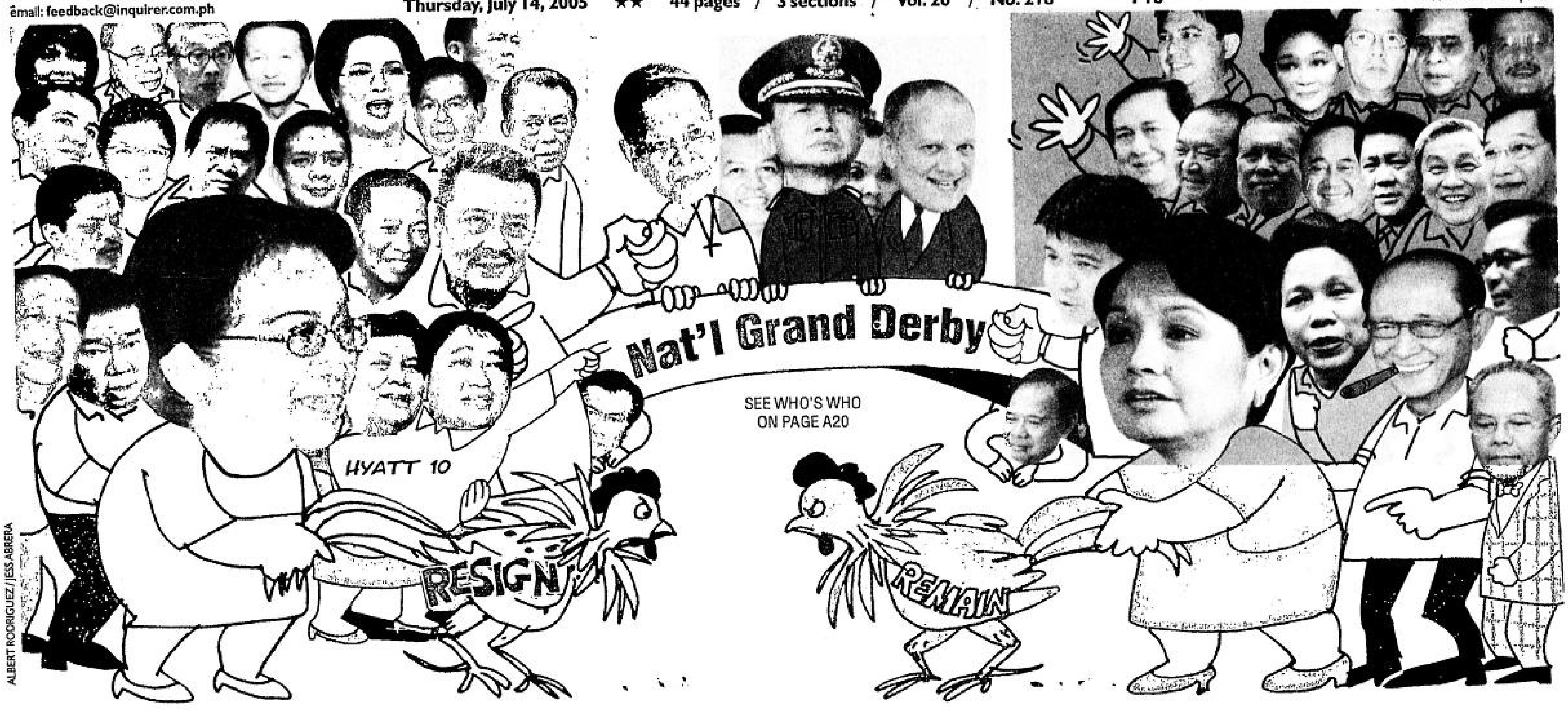
THE POLITICAL crisis yesterday continued to take its toll on the economy with Moody's Investors Service downgrading its credit outlook rating on the Philippines to negative from stable and the Asian Development Bank warning it may cut off new lending to the country.

MOODY'S/ A7

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

Thursday, July 14, 2005 ★★ 44 pages / 3 sections / Vol. 20 / No. 218 P18

website: www.Inq7.net



ALBERT RODRIGUEZ / JESS ABRERA

40,000 cry out: GMA, go

The day belongs to Susan Roces

By Fe Zamora, Tarra V. Quismundo and Jocelyn Uy

SOME 40,000 protesters massed in Makati yesterday in the largest opposition demonstration yet to press demands for the resignation of President Macapagal-Arroyo over allegations she rigged last year's elections.

"I am here, just as I promised, that if you go to the streets, I will join you," said Susan Roces, widow of actor Fernando Poe Jr., to a rousing applause from the crowd.

"If we bring together our small voices, it will be strong ... With God's help, we will solve our problems through peaceful means."

Roces and Sen. Panfilo Lacson led opposition leaders in their first major effort to show they could muster another People Power revolution to force Ms Arroyo to step aside.

The stretch of Paseo de Roxas, from Ayala Avenue to De la Rosa Street was crammed with people coming from a broad spectrum of opposition groups and political parties, swinging banners and carrying streamers.

"Gloria resign ... Gloria is a thief," the crowd chanted. Crowds along the sidewalks

40,000/ A21

A touch of show biz at business district

By Fe Zamora, Tarra V. Quismundo and Jocelyn Uy

AS IN PREVIOUS campaigns to oust unwanted presidents, there was a touch of show biz in yesterday's rally to press demands that President Macapagal-Arroyo resign.

The festive atmosphere approaching that of a rock concert that marked yesterday's rally for the resignation of Ms Arroyo seemed straight out of 1986.

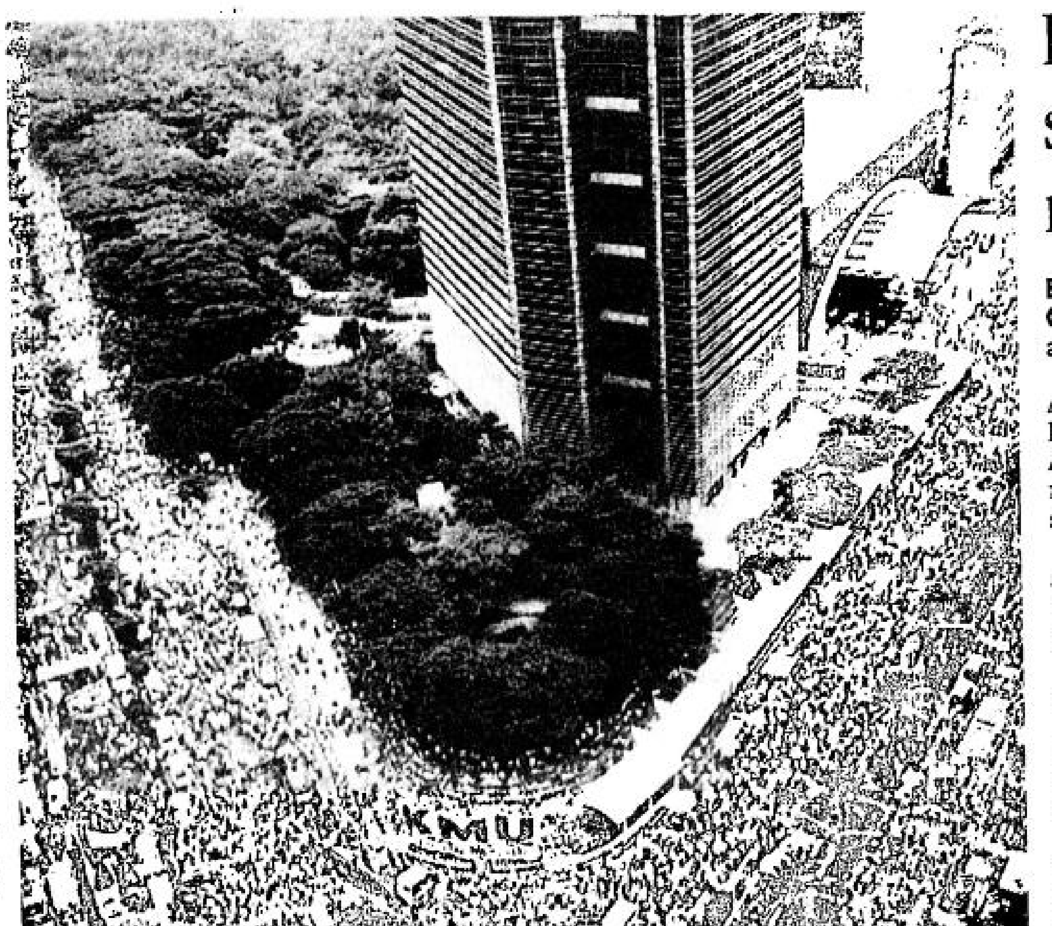
That was the time when the Apo Hiking Society, Freddie Aguilar and folk singer Coritha, among others, mixed music and politics to help in the overthrow of a dictator.

The Apo Hiking Society wasn't around yesterday but the members of a group called Artists for the Removal of Gloria were.

The crowd cheered when one of the groups sang a number titled "Arrest Gloria"—its lyrics were lifted from the controversial "Hello Garci" tapes at the center of the political scandal now rocking Malacañang.

The long-haired, lissome Sex Bomb dancers were also around.

A TOUCH/ A21



ERIK ARAJAS

BUT WHERE'S THE CONFETTI? Without a doubt, the biggest show of force since the political crisis erupted last month, the resign-GMA crowd was "just enough to jolt" GMA.

President's men say she will not resign, 'not ever'

By Blanche S. Rivera, Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Philip C. Tubeza

AS HER opponents mounted their biggest rally yesterday in Makati, President Macapagal-Arroyo remained defiant, with her allies planning a reportedly massive counter-demonstration on Saturday.

Environment Secretary Michael Defensor said Ms Arroyo would not stand down even if her detractors could mobilize half a million people in the streets.

"Will she resign? No, not ever. She will not leave the presidential palace," Defensor said.

At a forum of the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines, he said the President was tough. "I think she will survive this, and we're standing by her."

Rigoberto Tiglao, chief of the Presidential Management Staff, said Ms Arroyo "won't just simply resign because of demonstrations in the streets, even if there are prominent figures asking her to resign."

Ms Arroyo is clinging tenaciously to pow-

PRESIDENT'S/ A6

House impeach rap only 6 votes shy of required 79

By Michael Lim Ubac and TJ Burgonio

WHAT the opposition earlier viewed as a "trap" could become a legal vehicle for the ouster of President Macapagal-Arroyo, a member of the majority in the House of Representatives yesterday said.

Albay Rep. Joey Salceda, a close economic adviser of the President, said that impeaching Ms Arroyo had become possible.

Salceda said the majority in the House already knew that some 73 "hard core" anti-Arroyo lawmakers were ready to support any of the two impeachment complaints filed last month with the House secretary general.

The number is only six votes short of the required 79 signatures for the Articles of Impeachment to be transmitted to the Senate, which could soon be controlled by the opposition (currently numbering nine) after Senate President Franklin Drilon and Senators Fran-

HOUSE/ A6

Fear of Noli forces priest to rethink stand vs GMA

By Christian V. Esguerra

WHO'S afraid of a President Noli de Castro?

The possible scenario has so spooked several key members of the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (AMRSP) that they were willing to give President Macapagal-Arroyo a chance to redeem herself and her administration.

"She might be a sinner but she can still implement the much-needed reforms and, possibly, become a saint," Bro. Manuel de Leon, AMRSP vice chair, told the INQUIRER in an interview yesterday.

But De Leon, provincial superior of the Marist Brothers of the Schools, made it clear that he was not speaking in behalf of the association, although he said a number of other religious superiors shared his new position.

He said one thing that helped them reconsider AMRSP's previous position was the realization that Vice President De Castro might not be up for the job as the country's highest official in case Ms Arroyo resigned.

"We're afraid of the Noli factor," he said.

Another factor was the belief that the

FEAR OF NOLI / A6

Second FRONT PAGE
E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: Inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Luzon, Visayas and Northern Mindanao will be mostly cloudy with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming widespread rains over Eastern sections of Central Luzon. The rest of Mindanao will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms mostly in the afternoon or evening.

COMPILED BY CYRIL L BONABENTE, PDI RESEARCH/07/14/05 SOURCE PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Partly Cloudy

AFP adopts one-Mrs. Doble policy

By Dona Pazzibugan

THE MILITARY yesterday dismissed allegations by the mistress of military intelligence agent Vidal Doble that Doble had sold the "Hello Garci" wiretaps for P2 million.

Marietta Santos, Doble's alleged mistress, told dzBB radio on Tuesday that she had witnessed the transactions between Doble and former National Bureau of Investigation deputy chief Samuel Ong, including a meeting in April during which the P2 million payment was made.

The military has always denied claims that it was the source of the tape of the alleged wiretapped conversations between President Macapagal-Arroyo and former election commissioner Virgilio Garcillano.

Lt. Col. Buenaventura Pascual, the AFP public information chief, accused Santos of making up a "wild, telenovela-like" story to attract attention.

"She is being sidelined in the issue by the true Mrs. Doble, whom the AFP recognizes as the legal spouse," Pascual said.

Doble's wife, Arlene and their two children have been under Isafp custody since June 13.

"Why did she speak only now? This could just be a family quarrel," Pascual said, adding that Santos should not be taken seriously.

Santos denied she and Doble were held against their will by Ong inside the San Carlos Seminary from June 10 to 13.

She said Doble was forced to disown Ong and deny that he was the source of the tape because his family had been taken into custody by Isafp.

Arlene had shown up at the seminary on June 13 claiming Doble had been "kidnapped" and had asked her to help him get out.

Get Garci, House wiretap probers tell law enforcers

By Michael Lim Ubac and Philip C. Tubeza

THE HOUSE committees hearing the "Gloriagate" tape scandal yesterday issued a strongly worded subpoena, said to be a de facto arrest order, against former election commissioner Virgilio Garcillano for him to appear before the congressional inquiry.

The five committees suspended the hearings which have dragged on for the past three weeks because of the absence of Garcillano whose presence is required to clarify his participation in the alleged fixing of the 2004 election.

The inquiry is to resume on Aug. 3, but legislators stressed that they were ready to reconvene the moment Garcillano surfaces.

Rep. Gilbert Remulla, the chair of the joint inquiry, said the decision was made to suspend the hearings until Aug. 3 since Congress would be "preoccupied" with drawing up new rules of impeachment and proposals for Charter change after it resumes sessions on July 25.

'Master tape'

The committees also earlier summoned former deputy director of the National Bureau of Investigation Samuel Ong, who has claimed to have the "master tape" of the alleged conversation between President Macapagal-Arroyo and Garcillano.

Ong, like Garcillano, has been in hiding since the tape controversy broke out.

The subpoena directed law enforcement agencies, immigration personnel and the "national intelligence community" to "exert all efforts to require the presence" of Garcillano in future hearings.

Rep. Eduardo Gullas, who asked for the subpoena, however, balked at the suggestion that Garcillano should be bodily carried to the House of Representatives if he continued to defy the order.

Akbayan Rep. Mayong Aguja said that with the clamor for Ms Arroyo's resignation, the veracity of the audio tapes and the nature of the alleged electoral conspiracies "must be now brought to a credible conclusion which is only possible with Garci testifying before the committees."

"The very essence of the wiretap inquiry—did he conspire with GMA to cheat in the 2004 elections—can only be answered straight from the horse's mouth. Yet he [Garcillano] keeps bragging over media, granting interviews left and right. If he can do this all over the place, why can't we find him and bring him to Batasan," said another Akbayan party-list member, Etta Rosales.

In the absence of Ong and Garcillano, yesterday's session heard the testimony of military intelligence chief Brig. Gen. Marlou Quevedo, who admitted that the military had the capability to wiretap conversations over phone land lines.

He said that there were personnel trained to conduct wiretaps but said that the agency did not do so without a court order.

He also said that Marietta Santos, the supposed mistress of intelligence agent Vidal Doble was never in the custody of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces (Isafp).

Quevedo said that the Isafp only had Doble, his wife, Arlene, and their two children under its custody.

Kill Doble

Santos told dzBB radio on Tuesday that her lover had voluntarily given the tape to Ong, disputing military claims that it was not the source of the tape.

Santos said she had been in Isafp custody but left on Saturday because Isafp agents had allegedly threatened to kill Doble for bringing out the tape. *(See related story.)*

Quevedo said that the agency's own investigation into allegations that Doble sold for P2 million the "Gloriagate" tape was "still ongoing."

He said the agency had known of the wiretapped conversation even before Malacañang made public their existence on June 6 but did not give it much importance and only noted in its report that "there was a tape in the hands of people outside the government."

He said he was surprised that there was a compact disc version, which he found out only from newspaper reports and from the ongoing congressional inquiry.

The opposition yesterday also tried to resurrect an earlier proposal to compel Ms Arroyo to formally comment on the wiretapped conversations.

Rep. Alan Peter Cayetano said that based on his legal research, the probe committees had the legal right or power to compel the President to formally comment on the poll fraud allegations caught on tape.

SGAC HITS THE TARGET!
SHOOTERS
GUNS & AMMO CORPORATION
ARMS MANUFACTURING INCORPORATED
GUN REPAIR CORPORATION
ARANETA CENTER
TO CUBAO
MRT
TO AYALA
CAMP CRAME
SHOOTERS GUNS & AMMO CORPORATION
SHOOTERS Guns & Ammo Corporation
SHOOTERS Arms Manufacturing Incorporated
WE'VE JUST MOVED TO OUR NEW BUILDING TO SERVE YOU EVEN BETTER.

SGAC HITS THE TARGET

The Philippine's largest chain of gun retail business, found their new target place in giving better services and accessibility. Shooters Guns and Ammo Corporation (SGAC) has moved to a bigger site to render more reliable services in the most convenient way.

This one of its kind Gun Retailer was built from humble beginnings. From a simple store "E. de Leon Gunstore", founded by Romulo B. de Leon Sr. with his spouse Elizabeth T. de Leon and with the continuous innovative market selling plus hands-on management it became SGAC. Now, more than a mere store headed by a successful son, Romulo T. De Leon III together with his supportive wife Rosario Aleli M. de Leon, SGAC's growth was unstoppable.

The company's expertise in manufacturing imported and local revolver, pistols, shotguns, ammunition, firearm parts and other allied equipment was proven to be of world-class standards having passed the standard quality test, under the Department of Treasury Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms in Washington, DC 20226.

With the expanded territory, valued clients and consumers can expect more smooth sailing transactions and more of world-class quality products.

GREETINGS FROM:

R.T. DE LEON III AND SONS
REALTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
De Leon Plaza, Velez cor. Yacapin Street Cagayan de Oro City • Tel. no. 723807

ACTION LUMBER & HARDWARE

MANDAUE CEBU Tradecenter INC.
Tel Nos 346-6643 • 346-0266

FEDERAL NORTH HARDWARE, INC.
Tel No 232-8329 • 232-8320

SENO METAL INC.
Tel Nos. 366-1539 to 40

TRINITY INSURANCE CONSULTANTS, INC.
Always eager to serve you!
8F Philcox Building 172 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village Makati City Phils.
Tel Nos (632) 810-1653 to 60 • Fax (632) 892-5251

Edsa cor. Boony Serrano Rd., Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City
Tel Nos 911 2032 to 33

P.B. Dionisio & Co., Inc.
Suite 200 PBD Bldg., 27 Don Alejandro Roces Ave. Quezon City
Tel Nos: 373-3088 • 415-7444 loc. 102 to 107
Fax (632) 372-2713

JETHRO INTERNATIONAL, INC.
5 G. Del Pilar St., S F D M, Quezon City
Tel Nos 415-2340,41 • 372-9126
Fax (632) 415-2046

WORLD CARGO TECHNOLOGY Brokerage Corp
Rm. 350-A Padilla delos Reyes Bldg., 232 Juan Luna St., Binondo Manila
Tel Nos 241-6657 • 241-6660 • Fax 241-6759

AFAD
Association of Firearms and Ammunition Dealers of the Philippines, Inc.
Suite 200 PBD Bldg., 27 Don Alejandro Roces Ave. Quezon City
Tel Nos 411-7444 • 373-3088 loc. 148 • Fax 414-3002

GUNS EMPIRE, INC.
DEALERS IN: FIREARMS & AMMUNITION
515 Edsa Cubao, Quezon City
Tel Nos 721-1032 • 723-3967

WSC WEAPONS SYSTEMS CORPORATION
Units 626 & 627 6/F Mega Plaza Bldg., ADB Ave. cor Garnet Rd., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel Nos (632) 687-7973 • (632) 687-7973
Fax (632) 687-7973

AAR TRADERS
Rm 607 RCSH Bldg. Cor Legaspi & Manalili Sts. Cebu City

YALE HARDWARE
1205 - 1217 CM Recto Ave., Sta Cruz, Manila
Tel. No: 251-9531 • Fax No: 254-8619

TECHTRON INDUSTRIAL CORP.
104-B 4th Street 10th Ave., Grace Park Caloocan City
Tel Nos 364-4132 • 364-3854 • Fax 361-5281

GLORIOUS MORNING CONSTRUCTION & INDUSTRIAL SALES
80 Aurora Blvd (Cor. R. Laymay St.) San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. No 727-1601 • 727-5908 • 727-4264 • 727-6967 • 724-7044

JUSTIN ENGENDERING & MACHINERY CO. INC
22-F., Llenado Compound, Mayson Rd. Malinta, Valenzuela City 1440
Tels.: 277-6511 • 292-3951 • Telfax 291-2785

Tri Star Paints Center & Construction Supply
Pres. Osmeña Street Cagayan de Oro City
Tel. No. (088) 725708 / Telefax (088) 726411

Senate to revive North Rail probe

By TJ Burgonio

A $503 million project to rehabilitate a railway line north of Manila which was awarded without public bidding will be the focus of a Senate investigation when Congress resumes sessions on July 25.

Senate President Franklin Drilon yesterday cited the "colossal corrupt deals" entered into by the government, including the questionable rehabilitation of the North Railway System, as a major reason behind his sudden withdrawal of support for President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Drilon said the Senate is set to hold hearings on the contract between the North Luzon Railways Corp. and the China National Machinery and Equipment Group (CNMEG) to rehabilitate the 32-km railway line from Caloocan City to Malolos, Bulacan.

But the 23 senators, he added, have to vote on the issue of whether the Senate sitting as a Committee of the Whole or the Blue Ribbon Committee would conduct the inquiry once Congress resumes sessions on July 25.

"We'll conduct hearings on this," he said in a phone interview. "When we come back, we'll just vote on whether the Committee as a Whole or the Blue Ribbon Committee will handle the investigation."

Drilon's pronouncement comes fives months after Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile delivered a privilege speech on the floor on Feb. 14 questioning the project's fraudulent terms, such as the award of the contract to CNMEG without public bidding.

The contract was an offshoot of a $421-million loan agreement between Manila and Beijing during Ms Arroyo's state visit to China in 2004 for the rehabilitation of the railway system.

Enrile moved that the inquiry on the matter be handled by the Senate sitting as a Committee of the Whole, instead of the Blue Ribbon Committee, which usually handles such inquiries.

The Committee on Rules later ruled that the entire chamber would have to decide whether this should be referred to the Committee of the Whole or the Blue Ribbon Committee.

Drilon said that National Economic Development Authority director-general Romulo Neri and Jose Cortez of the North Luzon Railways Corp., among other parties to the project, would be summoned while pertinent documents would be required for presentation.

"Evidence will be presented; witnesses and resource persons will be subpoenaed," he said of the upcoming inquiry.

Drilon admitted that the President's failure to address his concerns over anomalies in government, such as the North Railway rehabilitation project, was the last straw that forced him to cut his ties with her.

"It's hard for me to do this, but I had to follow my conscience," he said.

Drilon agreed with the issues raised by Enrile about the contract, including the agreement between the two parties for the Export-Import Bank of China to control the $421-million loan and disburse it to the contractor once the project is completed.

The amount is a loan to the Philippines, and hence, should have been deposited into the country's account, Enrile said in a privilege speech.

Under the agreement, the Philippines would provide the remaining $82 million to cover the cost of the project.

The railway project, which will link Metro Manila, Central Luzon and Northern Luzon, is the biggest project between the Philippines and China.

Enrile also questioned the imposition of additional interest of 1 percent per annum on the project by the finance department; requirement to the government to pay P20 million for every month of delay in the removal of squatters along the railway, and the role of Hong Kong businessman William Go, who is neither a member of the Chinese or Philippine governments, in the transaction.

Drilon leaving fate to Senate colleagues

By TJ Burgonio and Juliet Labog-Javellana

SENATE President Franklin Drilon, now in danger of losing his grip on power following his withdrawal of support for President Macapagal-Arroyo, is leaving his fate to his colleagues.

"This is a matter that the entire Senate will decide. I will leave it at that," said Drilon in a phone interview.

As to the observation that he and the three other Liberal Party senators who asked the President to resign were now isolated, Drilon said: "That will be tested once Congress opens on July 25."

The Senate can't hold elections for the presidency unless someone declares the position vacant when Congress opens on July 25. To elect a new Senate President, 13 votes would be needed.

Administration Sen. Miriam Santiago said the other day administration senators could form a new majority and elect a new Senate President with the help of Malacañang.

She said there could be a three-cornered battle for the Senate presidency between administration Sen. Manuel Villar, Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and whichever senator was "closest" to jailed ex-president Estrada, who could provide the swing votes from the minority.

But Pimentel said the removal of Drilon was not his paramount concern now.

"My focus is the removal of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Anything else is back burner material," he said.

Drilon, one of the President's most trusted allies until he broke away, declined to say if he was taking steps to re-consolidate his forces in the majority bloc of senators, most of whom remain loyal to Ms Arroyo.

Apart from LP senators Francis Pangilinan, Rodolfo Biazon and Manuel Roxas, Drilon can be said to count on the support of Senators Juan Flavier and Ramon Magsaysay Jr., Santiago said.

The Senate majority is composed of 14 members, including Drilon's group.

The minority has nine members but Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, who heads Estrada's party, has renounced his membership in the group. Enrile now styles himself as an independent oppositionist and has been voting with the majority on certain measures.

Opposition Sen. Panfilo Lacson said Drilon can retain his post if the minority fails to muster the 13 senators needed to elect a Senate President and compose the majority bloc.

"That's the more logical move since Villar's position on GMA's resignation is not consistent with ours," Lacson said.

Villar said he and his Nacionalista Party would respect the constitutional succession but is leaving it up to the President to decide what she should do about allegations against her and calls for her to step down.

Villar, who is a member of the Wednesday Group which counts six senators, has said he would prefer to stick with the term sharing arrangement he has with Drilon.

Under the agreement, Drilon was to serve as Senate President for the first two years of the 13th Congress's three-year term, or up to July 2006, while Villar would serve the last year.

Lacson said that if the eight or nine opposition senators "shift" support to another Senate President, then Drilon can be replaced. But if the minority does not forge alliances with the majority, then Drilon can hold on to his post.

"Personally I'd rather make him stay, but he should show that we are now going to be an opposition-dominated Senate. He cannot have his feet on both camps," Lacson said.

"What's clear though is the minority now becomes the fulcrum of power in the Senate. So I see an opposition-dominated Senate when we resume session on July 25," he said.

'NOTHING NEW'

Palace shrugs off survey

By Christine O. Avendaño

MALACANANG is not about to fret over the latest survey showing that most Metro Manila residents distrust President Macapagal-Arroyo and want her to step down.

"Metro Manila did not give its vote to President Arroyo in the elections and the survey results did not come as a surprise," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye yesterday, reacting to the latest Pulse Asia survey that showed that 72 percent of Metro Manilans distrust the President and 58 percent want her to resign.

Bunye insisted that the President won the election in 2004 and stressed that "no part of the country has the right to impose its sentiments upon the whole."

"Each and every Filipino across the land has an equal right to be heard and respected,'" Bunye said.

Actually, the attitude of the Palace was that it does not use surveys in making its decisions.

"Surveys are a particular tool for measuring political atmosphere but it can never be a basis for determining our political decisions," Presidential Management Staff head Rigoberto Tiglao told reporters in Malacañang.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita echoed Tiglao's line, saying that surveys are "something to serve as a measure on what we want to find out but I wish we can just look at surveys in the manner that we are just trying to explain something."

Tiglao said the poor approval ratings and rallies were nothing new to the administration.

"When you have a well-funded, well-orchestrated campaign [against the President]... that will certainly happen," Tiglao said.

"My only question is: What happens if next month or two months from now, the President's trust ratings go up again? Surveys are surveys. It's the pulse of the people but it changes. You cannot determine the future of the presidency by any pulse," he said.

Environment Secretary Michael Defensor said only Metro Manila had a very negative view of the political situation. "The wounds are so deep that people on sidewalks talk like political leaders of the opposition. That has to be healed," he said.

For his part, Gabriel Claudio, presidential adviser on political affairs, said the survey did not reflect the general sentiments of Metro Manila residents.

"There are only 300 respondents. I don't know if that is really a fair and accurate representation of thinking and sentiments of the people in Metro Manila," Claudio told reporters in San Juan.

He said those living outside Metro Manila should also be surveyed.

To prove that Ms Arroyo still enjoys public support in Metro Manila, three pro-administration lawmakers announced a massive multi-sectoral "gathering" at the Rizal Park.

House Majority Floor Leader Prospero C. Nograles criticized the latest survey results, saying that it is misleading and the survey itself was obviously slanted to reflect negatively on the President.

Nograles, in a press statement, said, "It was apparently suited to the specifications of the people who commissioned the survey and smacks of political gimmickry."

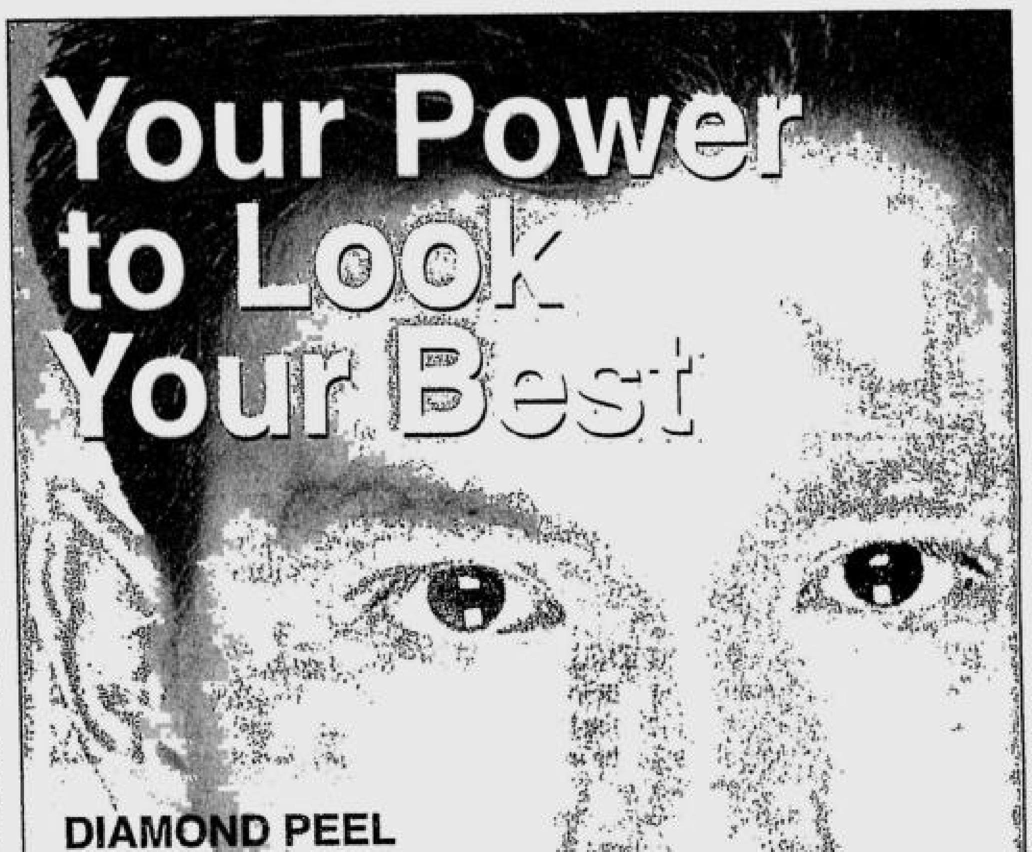
The lawmaker pointed out that only 300 respondents were surveyed and the scope of the survey was limited to Metro Manila which cast doubts on its reliability and credibility.

"The survey does not embody the sentiments of 84 million Filipinos. In Metro Manila alone, there are 4 million people. Three hundred people cannot accurately represent the regions' true outlook toward the President. That isn't even 1/8 of one percent of the population in NCR. Besides, the National Capital Region does not the Philippines make," he emphasized.

The solon further advised Pulse Asia to conduct a survey with a bigger sampling size and to include provinces where the President won during the last elections to obtain a truly credible result.

He said that the frequency of the survey being released to coincide with major opposition events to oust the President is suspect. The solon cited the release of the results of a survey last week from the same agency which had been commissioned by deposed President Joseph Estrada and on the eve of the Purisima group's resignation as well as the adverse statement of former President Corazon Aquino.

"The fact remains that an overwhelming majority of our people remain solidly behind the President as manifested by the outpouring of support from grassroots and genuine political leaders," he said, stressing that the President enjoys overwhelming support in Mindanao which has not been surveyed by the rating agency. *With reports from Blanche S. Rivera and Alcuin Papa*


Your Power to Look Your Best

DIAMOND PEEL

The most advanced microdermabrasion treatment that uses a diamond dust-coated wand to exfoliate and effectively regenerate your skin:

- rids skin of blackheads and whiteheads
- refines pores and prevents acne breakouts
- fades acne scars and age spots
- evens-out skin color
- gives skin renewed elasticity
- leaves skin bursting with vitality

SKINLAB by Facial care centre
Professional Care for Men

CALL 813-7959

MAKATI • ORTIGAS • TOMAS MORATO • BINONDO • ALABANG • SHAW • CONGRESSIONAL • PAMPANGA • CEBU

BDO BANCO DE ORO

SuperValue Home Loan

Interest Rates are as low as any other big bank.

Go ahead and compare:

1 year fixed 10.25% p.a. 2 years 11.00% p.a. 3 years 11.25% p.a.

*Rates are subject to change without prior notice.

FREE Personal Accident Insurance of up to P3 Million, up to the life of your loan

FREE housewarming gifts from Our Home worth up to P15,000.00

Pay your first monthly amortization 90 days later

Plus, you automatically earn rewards points through the BDO Rewards Program

We find ways

The nice thing about Banco de Oro is that you get quick service with all the extras.

For more details, call our BDO Home Loan Hotline at 688-1220 up to 21 and 23
BDO Call Center at 631-8000 (within Metro Manila) or 1-800-10-6318000 (Domestic Toll-Free).
Initially available in Metro Manila, Laguna, Cavite and Bulacan only

BDO Home Loan

Other BDO Consumer Lending Products:
BDO Credit Cards • BDO Auto Loan • BDO Personal Loan

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0843, Series of 2005.

GMA to face suits if she quits–Salonga

By Armand N. Nocum

FORMER Senate President Jovito Salonga, considered the grand old man of Philippine law and politics, yesterday said he does not see President Macapagal-Arroyo resigning as she would expose herself to a deluge of criminal charges.

In a radio interview, Salonga also dismissed as "impracticable" the proposal from the President, former President Fidel V. Ramos and their allies for the Constitution to be amended to effect a shift to a parliamentary system.

"The President will not resign. The moment she resigns, she will lose her immunity from suit and face a deluge of criminal cases, including plunder and graft," Salonga told dzMM radio in a mixture of English and Filipino.

If that were to happen, there is a possibility that Ms Arroyo would follow ousted President Estrada into spending time at a "detention center."

Estrada is under "rest house arrest" in Tanay, Rizal, while under trial for plunder and perjury.

Amid increasing calls for her to step down, Ms Arroyo said she was not resigning because doing so would set the country on a political tailspin, characterized by endless coups and extra-constitutional changes of government.

Salonga said the decision of former President Aquino to ask the President to step down and former President Ramos to stand by Ms Arroyo had led to a political "impasse."

By his calculations, however, Salonga said the President was "a little ahead."

"There was impasse because on one side there is Cory (Aquino), on the other FVR, but the statement of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines has placed Gloria a little ahead in my scoreboard," said Salonga, who also heads the civil Bantay Katarungan and Kilosbayan nongovernment organizations.

Amending the Constitution, however, would not help the President get out of the "Gloriagate" tapes scandal because the problem was not with the Constitution but with her "lapse in judgment" in allegedly phoning an election commissioner during the elections, said Salonga.

Besides, the proposed constitutional amendment, if it pushes through, would likely take effect in 1996 or 1997, he said.

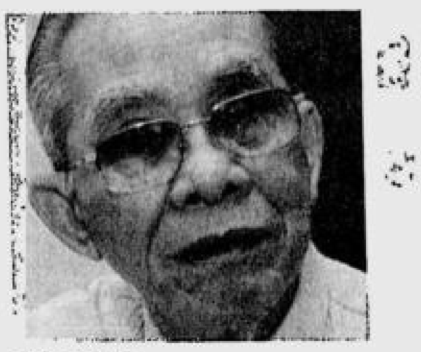
Also, the shift to a parliamentary system "cannot happen because the Senate does not want to be abolished," Salonga said.

"That can wait, it's not urgent. What is important is (for her) to get out of the present crisis," he said.

Salonga advised Malacañang to ensure that a proposed "truth commission" to get to the bottom of the tape scandal would be "credible, independent and imbued with powers to dig deep into the matter."

He said the President cannot be the one to set up such a commission because no one would believe it.

"Congress must put it up with adequate power and powers to discipline and summon witnesses, (and) power to effectively recommend anything that may be against the President," he said.


SALONGA

Salonga also joined calls for the overhaul of the Commission on Elections, saying that the holding of the July 18 elections at the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao even as Comelec officials are being accused of electoral irregularities would cause bigger trouble for the government.

He asked the people to be "vigilant and be sure that the elections are clean, honest and peaceful, let's not choose people who will corrupt out electoral system."

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD issued Resolution No. 001-0105 entitled "Resolution Adopting the 5-Year Tariff Methodology" on January 14, 2005, and Resolution No. 008-0505 entitled "Resolution Approving the Guidelines for the 5-Year Tariff Setting Methodology" on May 19, 2005.

Under the issued resolutions, all new applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and petitions for tariff adjustments or rate increase filed by private water utility operators shall be evaluated using a 5-Year ROI Methodology, instead of the One-Year ROI or Break Even Methodology, effective fifteen (15) days after the publication of NWRB Resolution No. 008-0505.

Copies of the approved Guidelines for the 5-Year ROI Methodology are available at the office of the National Water Resources Board at 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila.

RAMON B. ALIKPALA
Executive Director

Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD

RESOLUTION NO. 008-0505

Resolution Approving the Guidelines for the 5 Year Tariff Setting Methodology

The NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD ("the Board"), a government institution, created and existing under Philippine laws, with office address at 8th Floor NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City, states:

At the regular meeting of the Board held at its above-mentioned office on May 19, 2005, the following resolution was approved and confirmed, to wit:

WHEREAS, the NWRB is the grantee of a technical assistance grant from the Asian Development Bank (" ADB") under ADB TA6123-REG Project entitled "Rationalizing Tariffs for Private Water Utilities under the NWRB" (hereinafter "the Project");

WHEREAS, during the 27th Board Meeting held on January 25, 2005, the recommendations under the Project to change NWRB's Tariff Setting Methodology from the existing one-year ROI and Break-Even Methodology to a 5-Year ROI Methodology was approved by the Board. Thereafter, the Board requested the consultant, IDP Consult, to prepare the guidelines for the implementation of the new 5-Year ROI methodology.

WHEREAS, during the 29th Board Meeting held on March 21, 2005, IDP Consult Team Leader Antonio de Vera presented the proposed Guidelines for the 5 - Year Methodology. The Board formed a Technical Working Group, composed of DOF, DOJ, NEDA and the NWRB Secretariat to deliberate and make recommendations to the Board;

WHEREAS, the Technical Working Group recommended the approval of the Proposed Guidelines for the 5-Year ROI Methodology and further recommended that the NWRB Secretariat should:

a. Implement measures to ensure strict compliance with the annual reporting requirement using the redesigned annual report format as specified in the proposed guidelines.
b. Formulate performance benchmarks or industry averages for the different utilities, and relative thereto, start compiling the necessary data.
c. Adopt a system to enable the staff to evaluate the utility's NRW levels as well as other service parameters both at the beginning and end of the 5-year period.

A copy of the Technical Working Group's Report dated May 16, 2005 is attached and incorporated as part of this resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved that the Board hereby ADOPTS the recommendation of the Technical Working Group, as contained in its report dated May 16, 2005. RESOLVED FURTHER, that, as recommended by the Technical Working Group, the Proposed Guidelines for the 5-Year Tariff Setting Methodology, is hereby APPROVED.

The NWRB Secretariat is directed to forthwith cause the publication of the aforegoing resolution and the Guidelines for the 5-Year Tariff Setting Methodology, at least fifteen (15) days prior to effectivity.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand this May 19, 2005 in Quezon City:

Sec. Michael T. Defensor, DENR (Chairman)
rep. Usec. Demetrio L. Ignacio, Jr.

Sec. Romulo L. Neri, NEDA (Vice-Chairman)
rep. ADG Ruben S. Reinoso, Jr.

Members:

for Sec. Raul M. Gonzales, DOJ
rep. Atty. Ruben Fondevilla

Sec. Cesar V. Purisima, DOF

for Sec. Manuel M. Dayrit, DOH
rep. Dr. Robert A. Sadang

Dir. Leonardo Q. Liongson, NHRC-UP

Executive Director Ramon B. Alikpala, NWRB

ADVT

Defensor's own people want GMA out of Palace

By Norman Bordadora

WHILE Environment Secretary Michael Defensor is defending President Macapagal-Arroyo almost to death in the media amidst the mounting calls for her resignation, little does he know that majority of the employees at his own department want the incumbent to either resign or be impeached.

An informal survey conducted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Employees' Union at the DENR central office in Quezon City showed that 43 percent of the 507 employees surveyed want their secretary's boss in Malacañang to resign.

There are 563 regular employees of the DENR at its central office.

The next option that the DENR employees want is for the President to be impeached, with 32 percent of those surveyed wanting her to go through the process.

Nonetheless, and perhaps to Defensor's consolation, some 18 percent wanted Ms Arroyo to just stay put in Malacañang.

Less than two percent, or nine respondents, want her to take a leave of absence.

The survey was conducted on July 12 during lunch hour at the DENR central office on Visayas Avenue in Quezon City.

Correction

IN THE JULY 10 issue, a story in Across the Nation's INQUIRER Mindanao subsection on Page A15 — "Death of a journalist and public servant" — slain journalist Rolando Morales was erroneously described as a "block timer" by Radyo Agong's program director Emir Bariquit. The word "not" was inadvertently omitted in Bariquit's statement. The sentence should have read: "He was not a block timer, according to Emir Bariquit, program director of Radyo Agong."

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to Gerry Lirio, city editor, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City; fax Nos. 897-4793/94; e-mail addresses: glirio@inquirer.com.ph and daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent, pending the appointment of a new readers' advocate, to Isagani Yambot, publisher, the same address and fax numbers as those of the city editor, and e-mail address: iyambot@inquirer.com.ph.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Thursday, July 14, 2005
15th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ex 3:13-20
Gospel: Matthew 11:28-30

Jesus spoke thus, "Come to me, all you who work hard and who carry heavy burdens and I will refresh you. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me for I am gentle and humble of heart; and you will find rest. For my yoke is good and my burden is light."

Commentary

And Jesus continues to pray, now drawing us into his prayer, letting us see his heart and the truth of who he is—Come to me, if you work hard for the honor of the Father, the coming of justice, the preaching of the gospel, the care of the least and carry the burden of the gospel, your small share of it-come for refreshment in Jesus' word and presence. Take up Jesus yoke: the yoke of being in community together so that we can do the work of God that we cannot begin to do alone. Take up the yoke of the cross, that Jesus was tied to, the yoke that stretched his arms out so that his body was in the sign of the cross. Take up the yoke where we put our arms on each other's shoulders and learn to dance into resurrection. Here in community, in work, in suffering and death and resurrection we will learn of Jesus-learn the Jesus that the Father knows—the Jesus that is meek (non-violent) gentle, careful of others, and humble, truly bowed before God and this is the rest, the being held in God that we need.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

LABOR LAW (LABOR RELATIONS LAW) - Control test in an employer-employee relationship - The "control test" is the most important element of the employer-employee relationship, the "control test" is the most important. Compared to an employee, an independent contractor is one who carries on a distinct and independent business and undertakes to perform the job, work, or service on its own account and under its own responsibility according to its own manner and method, free from the control and direction of the principal in all matters connected with the performance of the work except as to the results thereof. Hence, while an independent contractor enjoys independence and freedom from the control and supervision of his principal, an employee is subject to the employer's power to control the means and methods by which the employee's work is to be performed and accomplished. It bears stressing that the existence of an employer-employee relationship cannot be negated by expressly repudiating it in a contract and providing therein that the employee is an independent contractor when, as in this case, the facts clearly show otherwise. Indeed, the employment status of a person is defined and prescribed by law and not by what the parties say it should be. (Citations omitted.) (Justice Callejo, Sr., Second Division, Chavez v. National Labor Relations Commission, G.R. No. 146530, January 17, 2005) BY R.B. VERA

Chavez antics meant to buy time for Cam, solons say

ADMINISTRATION lawmakers yesterday condemned the emotional outburst of lawyer Frank Chavez and his attack on their colleague, Sen. Richard Gordon, during the Senate "jueteng" hearing yesterday.

Lakas-CMD Reps. Marcelino Libanan (Eastern Samar) and Edwin Uy (Isabela), both lawyers, said Chavez's contemptuous behavior showed his arrogance and lack of respect for Congress and its members.

The congressmen, in a press statement, said Chavez's outburst was intended to deflect the Senate inquiry's focus on the eroding credibility of his client, confessed jueteng bagwoman Sandra Cam. Gordon was questioning Cam on her previous business dealings, including estafa charges filed against her, when Chavez stood up and accused Gordon of digging up his client's "dark past."

Libanan and Uy defended Gordon's line of questioning regarding Cam's background which they said was necessary in establishing the credibility of the witness as allowed in any investigation.

"Why should Atty. Chavez single out Senator Gordon when the other senators also interpellated Cam and her fellow jueteng witnesses and other resource persons like retired police Chief Supt. Restituto Mosqueda. It's obvious he wanted to save Cam from disgrace after Gordon's questions revealed the true and questionable character of Cam," said Libanan.

Libanan said the rules of inquiry allow members of an inquiring committee or committees to question a witness or resource person to extract the necessary information that may help resolve the issue of the inquiry.

"It's the right of Senator Gordon as a member of the jueteng probe committees to interpellate Cam to prevent the Senate from being used by individuals with vested interests."

Uy said Chavez's outburst was just a defense mechanism to protect Cam.

"He was shielding Cam after it became evident from Senator Gordon's line of questioning that she is a dubious character. It was a scheme to stop the exposure of her true character."

Uy added Chavez was buying time to coach Cam how to answer Gordon's revealing questions.

"Because of the Gordon-Chavez clash, the probe committees had to suddenly adjourn. The break would give Chavez enough time to coach his client so she could recover from Senator Gordon's revealing inquisition," he said.

DOLE takeover no problem for new NLRC chief

By Jerome Aning

THE NEWLY-APPOINTED head of the National Labor Relations Commission sees no reason to oppose the Department of Labor and Employment's administrative takeover of the agency.

NLRC Chair Benedicto Ernesto Bitonio Jr. said President Macapagal-Arroyo's controversial executive orders on the matter was "not an issue" for him.

He, however, admitted that the controversy "festered" under the tenure of his predecessor, Roy Señeres.

"The NLRC and the Department of Labor and Employment belong to the same family. The President's directive does not really change the mandates of the NLRC or the DOLE and neither are these mandates lost," he explained.

Señeres said Ms Arroyo's order was illegal and contrary to the Labor Code's provisions protecting the independence of the NLRC and limiting the DOLE's role to policy and program coordination only.

He argued that only Congress could change the Labor Code. He threatened to bring the controversy to court.

For his part, Bitonio said the huge backlog of cases and image of corruption and red tape plaguing the NLRC would be solved by "taking advantage of the human resources available" to the agency.

They thought it was UNBELIEVABLE!

Until they got their FREE FLAT SCREEN TV with their new VISA GOLD CARD from HSBC.

It was unlike any other freebie they had ever received. Delivered right to their doorstep. Unbelievable!

But that was just the start. They also enjoyed higher credit limits, greater recognition and all the other privileges of being a Visa Gold cardholder.

Isn't it time you move up to a Visa Gold card from HSBC? It's easy! Just submit any of these together with your application:

- Latest Gold card statement from another bank
- Certificate of employment and income*
- Monthly pay slip*
- Notice of salary increase*

*Minimum annual income of P480,000 required. This promotion is extended until 30 September 2005**.

Cardholders can opt to avail of an upgrade to a 21"(53.34cm), 25"(63.5cm) or 29"(73.66) Flat Screen TV for a minimal additional amount on our 0% interest instalment plan. Actual TV unit might vary from photo. Terms and conditions apply.

Call 884-8472 for Metro Manila and (032) 254-5657 for Cebu.

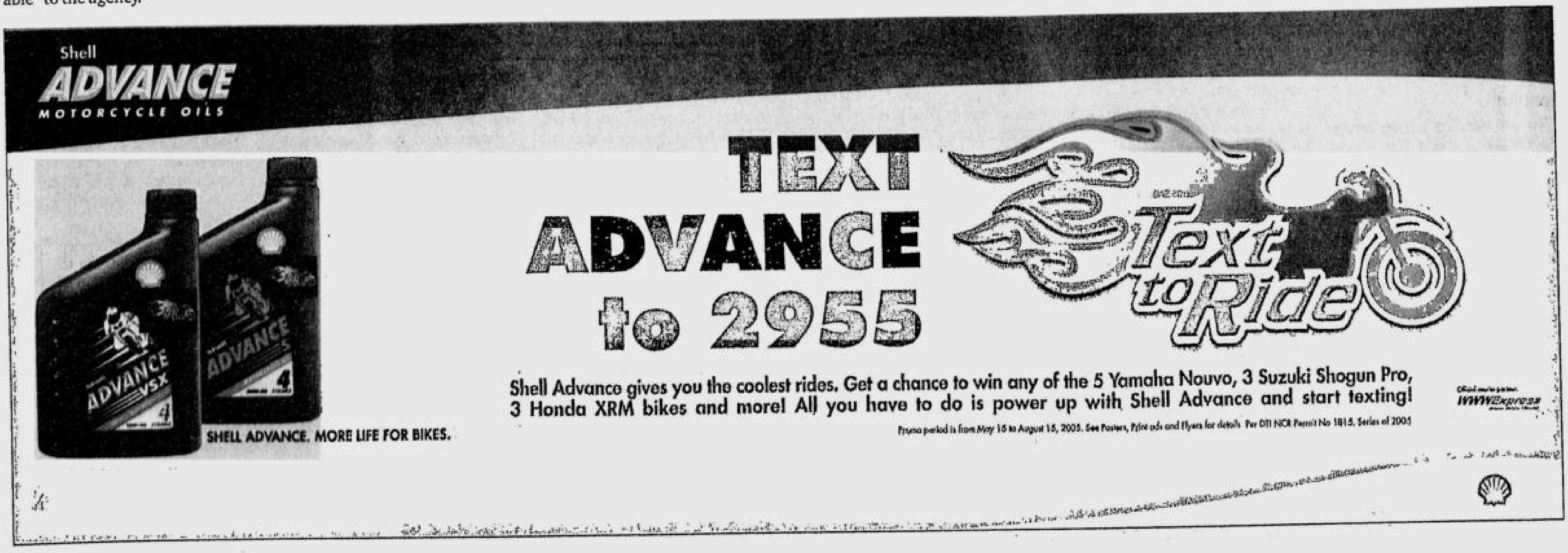
Visit the nearest HSBC branch.

HSBC

The world's local bank

Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

**Approved by DTI-NCR. Per DTI-NCR Permit Number 2127, Series of 2005.


Shell ADVANCE MOTORCYCLE OILS

TEXT ADVANCE to 2955

Text to Ride

SHELL ADVANCE. MORE LIFE FOR BIKES.

Shell Advance gives you the coolest rides. Get a chance to win any of the 5 Yamaha Nouvo, 3 Suzuki Shogun Pro, 3 Honda XRM bikes and more! All you have to do is power up with Shell Advance and start texting!

Promo period is from May 16 to August 15, 2005. See Posters, Print ads and Flyers for details. Per DTI NCR Permit No 1815, Series of 2005

Aerobics helping GMA to withstand political blows, says Ermita

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

AEROBICS is helping President Macapagal-Arroyo withstand the blows delivered by her detractors determined to force her out of office, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said yesterday.

Ermita said the President had remained physically fit thanks to her aerobics sessions with select Palace officials and friends every Monday and Thursday from 6 p.m. to 7 p. m.

"The President according to her aides is following her normal sleeping hours but I don't know, of course, how the President feels with her husband not around," he said at a briefing in Malacañang.

The President, however, appeared exhausted from the fast turn of events over the past four days.

In her few and brief appearances before the media since Friday, some observers noted that she had lost some weight and that the growing rings under her eyes indicated that she needed more rest.

On Tuesday, at a ceremony where she accepted the manifesto from 17 political parties supporting her calls for Charter change, the President was visibly fighting back sleep while Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. was speaking.

Ms Arroyo even forgot to shake hands with De Venecia when she received the manifesto, although she quickly corrected this lapse by turning around and shaking his hand.

Ermita said there was "no question" that the President was physically capable of enduring a people power movement against her because her conscience was clear.

"This is not a problem she is going through for the first time. Her conscience is not bothered because she knows she is doing the right thing," Ermita said.

President's men say she will not resign, 'not ever'

From page A1

er despite Friday's resignation of 10 top officials and calls for her to go from business groups, former political allies and ex-President Corazon Aquino.

A survey by Pulse Asia Inc. early this month has found that 72 percent of residents of Metro Manila do not trust Ms Arroyo and that 58 percent want her to resign.

Rabble-rousers

Tiglao belittled the Makati rally as largely made up of communist rabble-rousers and losers from the opposition.

"Two-thirds of the demonstrators are leftists who have long wanted to bring down the government and the rest are from the opposition forces used in the last elections," Tiglao said.

He said the President's opponents were looking for a trigger to make a bigger rally. "They think that they can bring down the government through the streets." But Tiglao said more Filipinos believed that going to the streets was not the solution to the problem.

He said the government respected the views of those who attended the rallies because this was part of a democracy.

Tiglao said Ms Arroyo was still willing to sit down with her detractors to reach a compromise as long as they would not force her to cut short her term.

"She will reach out, she has always been open to this but she is saying that they cannot demand or force her to resign," said Tiglao in an interview with GMA 7.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, at a briefing, supported Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez's plan to file sedition charges against individuals calling on the people to seek the President's resignation.

WITH HEAD HELD HIGH, Ms Arroyo goes about her business at the Palace in the main receiving expressions of support from local officials. AFP

"This is not meant to scare people but just a caution. The majority of the public will feel bad if the government does not do anything if the country's laws are being flouted," Ermita said.

Gathering for peace

To prove that the President still enjoyed public support in the metropolis, Representatives Eduardo Zialcita (Parañaque), Federico Sandoval (Malabon-Navotas) and Bienvenido Abante Jr. (Manila) said some 300,000 people were expected to gather at the Quirino Grandstand at around 4 p.m. on Saturday to "support the rule of law."

Evangelical, Protestant and Catholic groups, including some Catholic bishops and Bro. Mike Velarde, head of the Catholic charismatic group El Shaddai, are expected to attend the rally dubbed "A Gathering for Peace and Unity and the Rule of Law."

At a press conference, Abante said the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches, the Bible Believers League for Morality and Democracy, the Lutheran Church of the Philippines, the Christian Leaders for Good Government, and other evangelical churches from Laguna and Pampanga would attend the rally.

Pro-life

"My colleagues said that they expect a crowd of 100,000 to 200,000 but I think this would swell up to to 300,000 with the presence of the evangelical churches," Abante said.

Zialcita said members of Catholic groups like Couples for Christ, Pro-Life Philippines, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Womens' League, and delegations from various parishes would attend the gathering.

Not political show

Ms Arroyo, however, was not invited to the gathering.

"We're not inviting any other national government official because we don't want this to appear like a show for the administration," Abante said.

Abante said Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, a leader of the prolife movement, had been tasked with inviting some Catholic bishops. An invitation had been sent to Velarde, who is out of the country.

Buhay party-list Rep. Rene Velarde, a son of the El Shaddai leader, will attend the rally, according to Abante.

In a statement, the young Velarde rejected calls for the President to resign, saying that "loosely using people power" violated the Constitution.

Prayer service

"Constitutional processes must therefore be respected despite the weakness of the Constitution, which we acknowledge. Loosely using people power is merely a case of constitutional abuse. It is out of the question," he said.

Abante said Atienza and Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte would speak at the rally that would end with a joint prayer service led by five or six Catholic and evangelical bishops.

"Those who will attend believe that all these (anti-Arroyo) rallies should stop and that we should adhere to the constitutional process. We believe that if these rallies continue, our economy would worsen," Sandoval said.

"Let us not go to the streets. This is not about who shouts the loudest," he said.

Rule of law

Sandoval said mayors and lawmakers in the metropolis, who are organizing the event, wanted to emphasize the rule of law because some opposition figures had said that they would not follow the rules of succession if the President resigned.

The lawmakers denied insinuations that they would bus in paid participants to the rally.

But they acknowledged that they were coordinating with the authorities so that jeepneys carrying participants would be allowed to proceed to Rizal Park.

With a report from AFP

THESE CEBUANOS are not for GMA. They try to break through a phalanx of cops shielding Malacañang sa Sugbo in Cebu City on Wednesday. CDN PHOTO

Fear of Noli forces priest to rethink stand vs GMA

From page A1

President "won't resign even if the Pope told her to do so," De Leon said.

Board meeting

As a group, the AMRSP has yet to revise or reiterate its appeal for the President, besieged by allegations of election fraud, to "voluntarily resign and help bring about a smooth political transition."

Its 14-member board, representing more than 300 congregations in the country, is set to meet tomorrow to resolve complaints that it did not consult the general membership before it came out with an official position.

Bro. Edmundo Fernandez, the group's co-chair and head of De La Salle Brothers, had said he was "deeply disappointed" with the decision of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) not to demand Ms Arroyo's resignation.

De Leon yesterday said the public should take the cue from Item 8 of the CBCP statement that was read Sunday by its outgoing president, Davao Archbishop Fernando Capalla:

"We urge our people in our parish and religious communities, our religious organizations and movements, our Basic Ecclesial Communities to come and pray together, reason, decide and act together always to the end that the will of God prevail in the political order.

"People of good will and credibility who hold different political convictions should come together and dialogue in order to help move the country out of its present impasse."

Rule of 2 Feet

Going by the statement, De Leon suggested that representatives from the administration and the opposition, academe, youth, business, civil society and the religious sectors, and reformists, moderates and progressives hold a dialogue and strike a compromise to resolve the crisis.

He proposed that the participants apply the "Rule of Two Feet," which states that "you have two feet so you come if you have something to offer and go if you don't have any."

On the part of Ms Arroyo, the AMRSP leader suggested that she make good her promise to institute key and immediate reforms in the political system and in the government's economic policies, considering that "resignation remained an option."

"We're giving her a chance, but we need to see signs of positive reforms," De Leon said.

Promising signs

One "promising" move, he said, would be the expulsion of the heads of the Government Service Insurance System, Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. and Laguna Lake Development Authority.

Their appointments were believed to have been the results of political accommodation and payoff, he said.

House impeach rap only 6 votes shy of required 79

From page A1

cis Pangilinan and Rodolfo Biazon—all members of the Liberal Party—withdrew support from Ms Arroyo and asked her to step down.

A vote from a third of the 236-seat House is needed to impeach the President. Once the President is impeached, the Senate will convene into an impeachment court to try the President, with senators acting as judges.

Bleeding

"We are bleeding ... (the Arroyo administration) might run out of blood," said Salceda, insisting that he was not bluffing the opposition.

If Salceda's math is correct, here's the breakdown: 28 minority members, 10 party-list representatives, 21 Liberal Party members, four administration lawmakers who bolted the majority (Representatives Roilo Golez, Dodot Jaworski, Edmund Reyes and Clavel Martinez) and 10 Nacionalista Party members.

Congressional sources said Salceda's figures had been validated by an "internal assessment" by Speaker Jose de Venecia's staff.

Last month, only 15 members of the House belonging to the opposition were expected to support a proper impeachment complaint against Ms Arroyo.

The President has rejected calls that she step down. She has instead told her detractors to file an impeachment complaint against her.

De Venecia had repeatedly announced that he would endorse to the House justice committee the impeachment complaints separately filed by lawyers Oliver Lozano and Jose Lopez.

22 solons up for grabs

Salceda said the minority could entice seven of the 22 House members who were up for grabs.

"You can see from the body language during the congressional hearings (on the "Hello Garci" tapes) that these (22 administration) lawmakers can be swayed one way or the other," Salceda assured.

"There are a lot of conscience-stricken, bleeding-heart lawmakers nowadays," Salceda said.

He said the fate of Ms Arroyo would rest on the political game to be played by the 22 lawmakers who incidentally belong to the Nationalist People's Coalition of businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco.

Cavite Rep. Gilbert Remulla, chair of the joint House committee investigating the audio tapes which purportedly show that Ms Arroyo rigged the 2004 polls, earlier acknowledged that the minority could muster 70 votes.

Taguig Rep. Alan Peter Cayetano, one of the lawyers in the minority who are studying the viability of impeaching Ms Arroyo, said that they still thought that resorting to the impeachment process could be part of the tricks of the majority to block her ouster.

"It could be a trap, a ploy," said Cayetano, pointing out that once the majority succeeded in blocking the complaint, Ms Arroyo was already protected by a one-year ban against facing any other impeachment complaints.

With street protests not reaching the numbers of Edsa II, the minority decided to designate San Juan Rep. Ronaldo Zamora to study whether either of the impeachment complaints could pass through the stringent requirements required by the Constitution.

Inherently weak

Earlier, House Minority Leader Francis Escudero said that the Lozano complaint appeared to be inherently weak as it was not supported by direct evidence proving that Ms Arroyo cheated in the 2004 polls.

Lozano had charged Ms Arroyo with betrayal of public trust in connection with the "Hello Garci" scandal, while Lopez filed a similar complaint.

Representatives Rodante Marcoleta and Antonio Alvarez endorsed the Lozano and Lopez complaints, respectively, which effectively barred the filing of other similar complaints within the year.

But since the 13th Congress has yet to promulgate its rules on the impeachment process, the minority could still take its chances.

Administration Representatives Eduardo Zialcita, Abraham Mitra, Rodolfo Antonino and Buhay party-list Rep. Rene Velarde have warned that the quick-fix solutions being offered by those calling for the resignation of the President contradicted the Catholic Church's call to adhere to constitutional solutions such as impeachment.

The lawmakers urged political leaders from all stripes to embrace the impeachment process.

Best legal option

The option of impeaching Ms Arroyo over allegations of electoral fraud and her family's involvement in corruption is getting more support among senators, according to Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago.

She said it now appeared that the "best legal option left" to handle the political crisis was filing an impeachment complaint against the President in the House.

This became more apparent, she said, after the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines declared Sunday it was not joining the clamor for Ms Arroyo's resignation.

"I think that the best thing for Congress to do is to prepare for the impeachment proceeding which will certainly take center stage on July 25, right after the State of the Nation Address of the President," she said.

Senators Joker Arroyo, Richard Gordon and Ramon Magsaysay Jr., among others, earlier declared that an impeachment complaint was the constitutional approach to the crisis.

Prolonging tenure

Drilon, for his part, said that the Senate was ready to act as an impeachment court if an impeachment complaint gained ground and was transmitted by the House of Representatives.

"We have the internal knowledge and capability to act as an impeachment court," he said in an interview, pointing out that the Senate technical staff that handled the impeachment of then President Joseph Estrada in 2000 was still intact.

Drilon said there was no conflict between the Liberal Party's call for Ms Arroyo's resignation and its subsequent vow to support an impeachment proceeding against her if she decided against resigning.

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr., for his part, reiterated his objections to the impeachment process, saying "Impeachment will prolong Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's unwarranted tenure as President. This is bad for the nation."

The impeachment move got a boost from Corazon "Dinky" Soliman, resigned social welfare and development secretary, who said on Tuesday she was willing to testify on anomalies in the administration should an impeachment trial against the President push through.

Breathing space

Former Customs Commissioner Alberto Lina refused to say whether he would follow the example of Soliman.

"Don't ask me that yet, give me breathing room first," he said in an ambush interview at the Bureau of Customs yesterday. "Maybe through time I will talk."

According to Lina, his attention is focused at the moment on his daughter who had met an accident and is confined at a hospital.

In a later phone interview, he said he was for seeking the truth, honesty and integrity.

"That's consistent with what we have been advocating ... the unending search for the truth," he said.

Lina was one of the three agency heads and seven Cabinet members, mostly from the President's economic team, who resigned their posts on Friday and called on Ms Arroyo to step down. *With a report from Leila B. Salaverria*

Moody's mood negative on RP; ADB warns Manila

From page A1

Moody's Investors Service on Wednesday became the third credit rating firm in three days to cut its outlook on the Philippines, saying reforms to cut the budget deficit had been thrown into doubt by the political crisis.

The ADB made no direct reference to the crisis facing President Macapagal-Arroyo but said its board had approved a three-year program to 2007 under which "new lending could range from zero to as much as $1.5 billion, depending on the pace of fiscal consolidation and key sector reforms."

Leadership gap

Even so, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Amando Tetangco played down fears that fiscal reforms will slip. "The government has moved quickly to fill up the vacated posts of secretary of finance and heads of revenue-collecting agencies," Tetangco said.

"This eliminates the leadership gap in these offices and should allow continuity of the fiscal improvements seen earlier this year and the reform program going forward," he added.

The peso weakened on increased dollar buying on the political uncertainty, finishing at 56.15 to the US dollar on the Philippine Dealing System, down from 56.11 on Tuesday. The benchmark 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange Index also dropped 14.90 points, or 0.8 percent, to 1,854.04 after rising 0.9 percent on Tuesday.

"The market's fate remains as uncertain as the country's political situation," said AB Capital Securities research head Jose Vistan.

Most severe

Moody's said the resignation last week of Ms Arroyo's economic team, including Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima, raised doubts about her administration's ability to maintain an improvement in the country's fiscal performance.

"Should there be a prolonged weakening of government effectiveness, or a change in government, future fiscal and external debt policies could be very different from that taken by the Arroyo government so far," Moody's said in a statement.

The agency, whose rating of Philippine sovereign debt is the most severe at four notches below investment grade, cut the outlook on its B1 long-term foreign- and local-currency ratings to negative from stable.

The move was similar to outlook changes made by Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings on Monday, with all three agencies citing the crisis facing Ms Arroyo over allegations of electoral fraud and of graft involving members of her family.

The downgrading of the outlook on the country is expected to result in a further cut on the country's credit rating, which would raise borrowing costs for Manila. The Arroyo administration relies on the global bond market to raise about $4 billion a year to cover its chronic budget deficits.

Moody's said the Supreme Court's decision to freeze the expanded value-added tax (VAT), the centerpiece of Ms Arroyo's efforts to raise state revenues and plug the budget deficit, suggested politics could derail reforms.

Moody's cited concerns that the political turmoil "might have negative consequences on the budget and external payments position."

Vulnerable to shocks

With a large buildup in public-sector debt and external debt making the country vulnerable to shocks, the departure of Ms Arroyo's top economic officials "casts doubt on the ability of the administration to preserve the recent improvement in the government's fiscal performance," Moody's said.

The government stands to lose an estimated P5 billion a month unless the high court reversed its temporary restraining order on the VAT law.

Opposition lawmakers had contested the new VAT law, saying it was unconstitutional because it allowed the President to raise the rate to 12 percent from 10 percent next year. The Supreme Court is due to hear the case today and a tribunal spokesperson said a ruling could come this month.

Prior to the court freeze, the government had estimated that this year's budget deficit could fall to P160 billion against the target of P180 billion, or 3.4 percent of gross domestic product. The fiscal shortfall in 2004 was P187 billion, equal to 3.9 percent of GDP.

ADB warning

ADB vice president Joseph Eichenberger told the executive board the new strategy "acknowledges the complex political economy of the Philippines and how this affects the pace and quality of reforms.

"To accommodate the associated uncertainty, and in a clear break with past practice, the ADB has not included specific annual lending targets within its overall three-year envelope of possible financial support," he added.

Eichenberger said the ADB, which lent about $200 million to Manila last year, could not pursue a "business as usual approach."

He said loan processing "will not be allowed to run ahead of the political, macroeconomic and sector supports" necessary to ensure the success of projects.

The ADB said its financial support levels starting in the 2005 fiscal year "will be contingent on significant front-loading of the fiscal consolidation process, backed by an enhanced tax effort to ensure the sustainability of economic reforms."

National treasurer

National Treasurer Omar Cruz said the Philippines was fully capable of repaying its foreign debt despite the political turmoil and a recent string of warnings from credit rating agencies.

Cruz stressed that the government would not default on any of its bonds or other debt.

"It's far from happening. I know fully well the government's debt maturities," Cruz said.

Latest available data from the Central Bank shows the Philippines' public foreign debt—which accounted for roughly two-thirds of the country's total foreign debt of $55.3 billion (euro45 billion) at the end of March—had an average maturity of 20 years.

Relentless reforms

Cruz also said the government would be relentless in pursuing fiscal reforms and would work to convince the Supreme Court to lift the suspension of the new VAT law.

He acknowledged that the concerns expressed by the credit rating firms were valid.

"Government posts are filled up now, so they are now given the mandate to get on and continue the momentum made all this time ... The gaps in leadership in key areas have been addressed," he pointed out.

On Tuesday, Ms Arroyo appointed Margarito "Gary" Teves—a respected bank president, economist and former congressman—as finance secretary. Teves said his immediate goal was to improve tax collection to avert the potential revenue loss if the Supreme Court's freeze of a broad sales tax was not lifted.

The American-educated economist has inherited an economy where the outstanding debt, as of April, ran to P3.867 trillion, including P32.14 billion owed to foreign creditors, according to central bank data.

No illusions

Teves said he had no illusions about the job. "I know it won't be easy but it is possible to turn things round."

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said economic fundamentals remained sound and the government was determined to remove legal obstacles to implementation of the VAT law.

The American Chamber of Commerce said the crisis "severely impacts on the ability of the current administration to govern effectively."

"We urge Filipinos to resolve this crisis at the earliest possible time, within the rule of law and the Philippine Constitution," it said in a statement. ***With reports from AP, AFP and Reuters***

Cory told to fix . . .

From page A1

This advice came from Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez, who claimed to have started her show biz career by introducing Cory and Kris to Regal Films matriarch Mother Lily Monteverde shortly after the 1986 People Power uprising, which installed the elder Aquino in power.

"She should first take care of her daughter," Gonzalez said, apparently referring to the young Aquino, who had been romantically involved with men deemed unsuitable to the socially prominent Aquino-Cojuangco clan.

Last year, Kris—an actress, TV host and product endorser—shocked the country with her nationally televised breakup with live-in partner, former Parañaque Mayor Joey Marquez. She even announced that the actor-politician had infected her with a sexual disease.

Regal's company lawyer

Gonzalez, who did not mention Kris by name, said he introduced her to the movie world while he was serving as company lawyer of Regal Films.

"I was the one, in fact, responsible for making Kris a movie actress because I was the one who introduced her to Mother Lily," he boasted.

No need to monitor Cory

In a breakfast forum earlier in the day, Gonzalez said the government was no longer going to monitor the movements of Cory Aquino, who had called for the resignation of President Macapagal-Arroyo on Friday.

"I think there is no need to monitor Cory Aquino because she's also busy monitoring her own daughter," he said.

"It appears that she is assuming that her voice alone can change the situation in the country," he said.

Asked whether Cory's political influence had waned, he said it had not, considering the memory of her husband, former Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino, who is hailed as a martyr for democracy and national hero. His assassination on Aug. 21, 1983 triggered People Power on Edsa that toppled the Marcos dictatorship.

Right to speak

Gonzalez said that as a former President, Cory had "every right to speak about national affairs."

But former Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman did not escape Gonzalez's tirades.

PDI PHOTO

GONZALEZ: Starmaker

He warned that Soliman could be charged with perjury or other crimes should her testimony during impeachment proceedings against Ms Arroyo proved to be false.

Soliman told the INQUIRER last Tuesday that she was ready to testify on alleged anomalies in the Arroyo administration if an impeachment trial pushed through, or any other "proper venue" for the sake of the national interest.

Gonzalez wondered about Soliman's timing, asking why it was only now that she was offering to tell all about the President. "Deplorable," he said.

'Rally of 2'

The justice chief also hit Fr. Robert Reyes, who is known as the "running priest," for staging a "rally of two" at the Edsa People Power Monument for days now, noting that so far it has failed to draw support from the people.

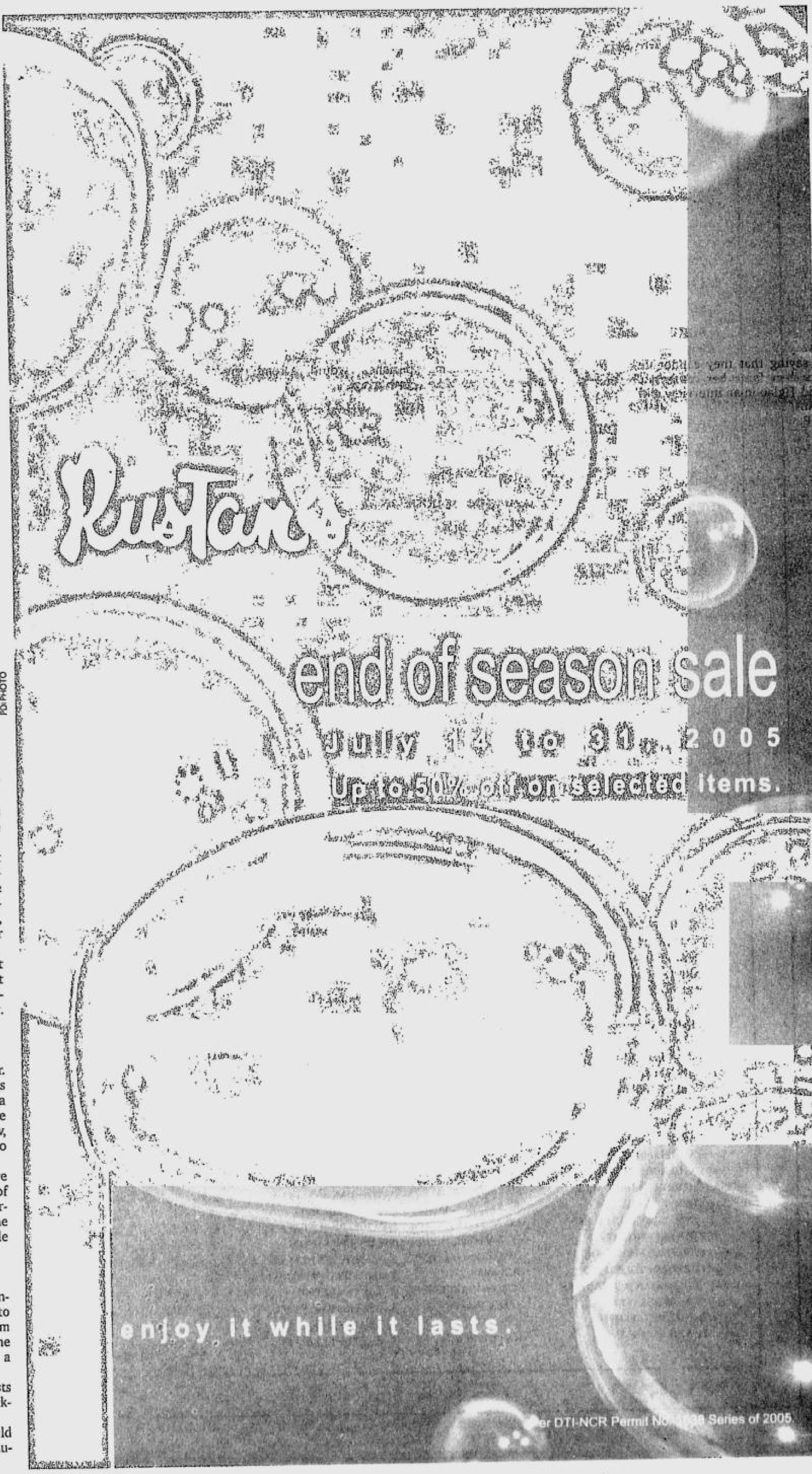
"These people should have their heads examined," he said of Reyes and Fr. "Puti" Enriquez, organizers of a march from the Manila Cathedral to the People Power Monument.

'Brink of civil war'

At noon yesterday, Father Enriquez spoke at the Edsa Shrine to invite the massgoers to join them in the protest movement as the country was "on the brink of a civil war."

Gonzalez said the two priests were counting rats and cockroaches at the Edsa monument.

"I think Father Robert should stop running around that monument," he said.



Rustan's
end of season sale
July 14 to 31, 2005
Up to 50% off on selected items.
enjoy it while it lasts.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. [illegible] Series of 2005

MANIFESTO OF SUPPORT OF AMA STUDENT COUNCILS FOR

PRES. GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

We, the students of AMA Education System realize that our economy has been badly battered by the continuous political bickering that has only brought havoc to our economic life and jeopardized the future of our nation.

We believe that patriotism emanates from a deep sense of loyalty and allegiance to our Constitution in order to ensure peace and order in the country.

We urge our leaders to put an end to the long-drawn political standoff with the duly constituted authority whose mandate to govern was granted by the sovereign will of our people.

We call on all political leaders to act in sobriety and show the youth that they are worthy of emulation as leaders who uphold the rule of law and respect the duly constituted authorities.

We, the AMA students, also strongly urge our leaders to listen to the voice of the Filipino youth as we denounce all acts that undermine the constitution.

Finally, we call on all citizens to support President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as the duly elected President of the Republic.

Signed,

The President of Supreme Student Councils and Student Organizations, Editors-in -Chief of school newspapers representing 200 schools nationwide with more than 150,000 students of AMA Education System (AMAES) composed of AMA Computer University (AMACU) and AMA Computer Colleges (AMACC), AMA Computer Learning Center (ACLC), ABE International Business Colleges (ABE), St. Augustine School of Nursing (SASN) AMA School of Medicine (ASM) Norwegian Maritime Academy (NMA), and St. Augustine International School (SAIS).

(Sgd) ACE P. GARCIA,	*AMACC PAMPANGA*
(Sgd) ADAN RENZ K. SAGALANG,	*AMACC PAMPANGA*
(Sgd) ADRIAN TAMAYO,	*AIITCUBAO*
(Sgd) ALDIN ALVIAR,	*ACLC MANILA*
(Sgd) ADRIAN V. BERNABE,	*AMACC CABANATUAN*
(Sgd) AILEEN MENDOZA,	*ABE DAVAO*
(Sgd) ALEA THERESE, TORRES,	*AMACC PASIG*
(Sgd) ALERTAIR S. LAURETA,	*AMACC CAGAYAN DE ORO*
(Sgd) ALFRED AGUILAR,	*ACLC IRIGA*
(Sgd) ALVIN LOMIBAO,	*ACLC ROCES*
(Sgd) AMIEL JOSEPH HENLEY,	*ACLC MANDALUYONG*
(Sgd) ANAROSE R. GUARIN,	*ACLC NOVALICHES*
(Sgd) ANALIE SALUGUHAY,	*ACLC MANDAUE*
(Sgd) ANITA A. MONTEMAYOR,	*AMACC DAGUPAN*
(Sgd) ANTHEA LUCERO,	*ACLC GUIUAN*
(Sgd) ANTHONY AQUINO,	AMACC *DAGUPAN*
(Sgd) ANTHONY VIVARES	SASN CDO
(Sgd) ANTONETTE VALENZUELA,	*AMACC LAOAG*
(Sgd) APRIL JADE LEDESMA,	*AMACC COTABATO*
(Sgd) ARISTEO RIBLEZA,	*ACLC OLONGAPO*
(Sgd) ARLENE SANTOS,	*SASN - MAKATI*
(Sgd) ARNOLD LARDA,	*PIIA*
(Sgd) BETHOVEN INDIG,	*SAIS MACTAN*
(Sgd) BLESS TOGLE,	*SAIS BACOLOD*
(Sgd) BRIAN JOHN CRUZ,	*BYTES*
(Sgd) BRYAN M. LAMAR,	*AMACC PAMPANGA*
(Sgd) CARLO CASIBANG,	*ACLC MALOLOS*
(Sgd) CARLO ROXAS, PALANCA,	*MACC LAS PINAS*
(Sgd) CARLO UMINGAN,	*ACLC PALAWAN*
(Sgd) CARMELITA ALCID,	*SASN MAKATI*
(Sgd) CARMELO DIAZ,	*AMACC LEGASPI*
(Sgd) CATHERINE GUIYOB,	*ACLC ILAGAN*
(Sgd) CHERRY CANDIDO, AECES,	*AMACC EAST RIZAL*
(Sgd) CHERYL PANTE,	*ACLC DIMASALANG*
(Sgd) CHERYL JOY GONZALES,	*ABE MANILA*
(Sgd) CHESTER SERVANEZ,	*CSNT, MARBEL*
(Sgd) CHRISTIAN MANDASOC,	*COSSA, AMACC NAGA*
(Sgd) CHRISTINA TOLENTINO,	*SASN MAKATI*
(Sgd) CLINT BRYAN B. BALMORES,	*ACLC COMMONWEALTH*
(Sgd) CLAUTA BERNABE,	*ACLC CAUAYAN*
(Sgd) DANIEL PENAFLORIDA,	*AIIT CUBAO*
(Sgd) DENNIS ESPAR.'.S,	*ACLC BACOOR*
(Sgd) DENNIS ROXAS,	*AMACC NAGA*
(Sgd) DERICK DELA PENA,	*ACLC BACOOR*
(Sgd) DOMINADOR DIZON,	*AMACC BAGUIO*
(Sgd) DONATO TABAC, JR.	*ACLC ALABANG*
(Sgd) EDEN ROSE DIZON,	*ACLC ANGELES*
(Sgd) EDEN DAYUTA,	*ACLC BALANGA*
(Sgd) EDEZA GEGRIMAL,	*AMACC ILOILO*
(Sgd) EDWIN BANAAG,	*AMACC MEYCAUAYAN*
(Sgd) EDWIN MICHAEL ABUEG,	*ACLC LA UNION*
(Sgd) EFREN SOLAR JR.	*SASN ESPANA*
(Sgd) ELIZABETH VILLANUEVA,	*ACLC MANILA*
(Sgd) ELLY GALLARDE,	*SASN ILOILO*
(Sgd) ELVESA L. PEDROSA,	*ACLC LAS PINAS*
(Sgd) EMAR MABACA,	*AMACC LUCENA*
(Sgd) EMMANUEL FORMENTO,	*ACLC STA. CRUZ*
(Sgd) ERNIE SERICO MAGPIU,	*ACLC CARDON*
(Sgd) ERWIN P. VICENTE,	*ACLC NORTHBAY*
(Sgd) EULA MAE GANZON,	*ACLC CUBAO*
(Sgd) EVERARDO TABANAO,	*SASN DAVAO*
(Sgd) FILAMER DELA CRUZ,	*SASN MAKATI*
(Sgd) FRANCIS FAJARDO,	*ACLC ROSARIO*
(Sgd) GEMMA SONAO,	*ABE CAINTA*
(Sgd) GENESIS C. SIAO,	*AMACC BINAN*
(Sgd) GENNIE ANN TUDILA,	*AMACC TACLOBAN*
(Sgd) GENEVIEVE GAMOT,	*ACLC BUKIDNON*
(Sgd) GEORLIN JOY VEGAS,	*BIM*
(Sgd) GERARD PAUL METRO,	*AMACC SANTIAGO*
(Sgd) GLESALYN GALANG,	*ACLC NOVALICHES*
(Sgd) GLORILYN B. JOSUE,	*ACLC LAS PINAS*
(Sgd) GLORIME PONGOS,	*ACLC TAYTAY*
(Sgd) GOVINDA CUNANAN,	*ACLC MANILA*
(Sgd) GREG ABUTON,	*AMACC LEGASPI*
(Sgd) GRETCHEN LANSOS,	*AMACC GEN SAN*
(Sgd) HAROLD MACAPAGAL,	*ACLC BALANGA*
(Sgd) HAZEL A. PERALTA,	*AMACC ZAMBOANGA*
(Sgd) HENRY NASON,	*ABE MALOLOS*
(Sgd) HUSSEN RAJID PIMPING,	*ACLC ILIGAN*
(Sgd) IAN TANPIUCO,	*ACLC ANGELES*
(Sgd) IPEE LACANDAZO,	*ABE TACLOBAN*
(Sgd) IRIS YUMUL,	*AMACC ANGELES*
(Sgd) IRENE SALAWA,	*ABE URDANETA*
(Sgd) JAMES CRUZ,	*AMACC LAS PINAS*
(Sgd) JAN CATULLO,	*ACLC COMMONWEALTH*
(Sgd) JAN DESIREE BASIAO,	*ACLC TACLOBAN*
(Sgd) JAN EDWARD CHUA,	*AMACC DAVAO*
(Sgd) JAN MARTIN CALUCO,	*ACLC COMMONWEALTH*
(Sgd) JANE E. VILLARUEL,	*AMACC DUMAGUETE*
(Sgd) JAYSON G. MADAYAG,	*AMACC PAMPANGA*
(Sgd) AYSON ORDONEZ,	*AMA CU*
(Sgd) JAYSON T. PEREZ,	*ACLC CANDELARIA*
(Sgd) JENNIFER JAYSON BACANI,	*AMACC LA UNION*
(Sgd) JENNYLYN JOAN MATEO,	*AMA COMPUTER UNIVERSITY*
(Sgd) JERMAINE SEVILLA,	*ACLC MALOLOS*
(Sgd) JERRY M. MANGALINDAN,	*ACLC COLLEGE, ACLC TACLOBAN*
(Sgd) JESSEBEL TABACAN,	*SASN PARANAQUE*
(Sgd) JHOVEL SULIT,	*ACLC MALOLOS*
(Sgd) JOAN BAUTISTA,	*AMA COMPUTER UNIVERSITY*
(Sgd) JOHN CARLO CABARLA,	*ACLC TACLOBAN*
(Sgd) JOHN ERICK SORIANO,	*JPS Alabang*
(Sgd) JONALYN DELA VEGA,	*ACLC NASUGBU*
(Sgd) JORIAN BANZUELA,	*AMACC LEGASPI*
(Sgd) JOSE EDENCIO,	*ACLC CUBAO*
(Sgd) JOSEPH M. PEREZ,	*ACLC CANDELARIA*
(Sgd) JOSEPH SANTOS,	*AIIT CABANATUAN*
(Sgd) JOSHUA PUNZALAN,	*AMACC BATANGAS*
(Sgd) JOVIELYN C. ESTRELLA,	*ACLC CUBAO*
(Sgd) JOVY AQUINO,	*ACLC TAGUIG*
(Sgd) JULIUS BARCELONA,	*COSSA, AMACC NAGA*
(Sgd) KATHERINE A. JUDAYA,	*ACLC TACLOBAN*
(Sgd) KHULETT BALBIN,	*SASN LAGRO*
(Sgd) KIM BETITA,	*SASN MAKATI*
(Sgd) KIMBERLY ANN DELFIN,	*ACLC ANGELES*
(Sgd) KRISTINA MONTES,	*SASN LAGRO*
(Sgd) KRISTINE C. GARCIA,	*ACLC GUIMBA*
(Sgd) KRISTINE D. ADANTE,	*ACLC CANDELARIA*
(Sgd) KRISTINE DELA CRUZ,	*AIIT CUBAO*
(Sgd) KRISTOFFER KERT G. DAO,	*AMACC DAVAO*
(Sgd) LEICIL HERICO,	*AIIT CUBAO*
(Sgd) LORENSO M. BERRY,	*AMACC ZAMBOANGA*
(Sgd) LORNEY DILAG,	*AMACC BACOLOD*
(Sgd) MA FATIMA TANPIUCO,	*ACLC ANGELES*
(Sgd) MARC PAULO ATIENZA,	*AMACC STA MESA*
(Sgd) MARCO MORALES,	*SASN ILOILO*
(Sgd) MARIANE NAVIDAD,	*AMACC PASIG*
(Sgd) MARICEL BANIAGA,	*SASN CALAMBA*
(Sgd) MARICEL MANALAO,	*AMACC LOS BANOS*
(Sgd) MARIEN DOMINGO,	*AMACC LAS PINAS*
(Sgd) MARISOL ANDAYA,	*AMACC MEYCAUAYAN*
(Sgd) MARLON ANDAYA,	*AMACC MEYCAUAYAN*
(Sgd) MARLON CAUMBAS,	*ACLC NORTHBAY*
(Sgd) MARY ANN REYES,	*ACLC OLONGAPO*
(Sgd) MARY GRACE ARBAN,	*AMACC STA CRUZ*
(Sgd) MEAH JIMENEZ,	*AMACC - FAIRVIEW*
(Sgd) MICHAEL A. COKING,	*ACLC GUIMBA*
(Sgd) MICHAEL R. HAMID,	*AMACC ZAMBOANGA*
(Sgd) MICHALEM CARDINES,	*AIIT CUBAO*
(Sgd) MICHELLE OLASCO,	*SASN ZAMBOANGA*
(Sgd) MILANI LUMENTAO,	*ACLC DAVAO*
(Sgd) MILDRED A. BARCELLANO,	*ACLC-CANDELARIA*
(Sgd) MILDRED PANGADLO,	*ACLC DUMAGUETE*
(Sgd) MIRAFLOR GAPUZ,	*ACLC BUKIDNON*
(Sgd) MYLENE ALVAREZ,	*ABE FAIRVIEW*
(Sgd) NAOMI MONTEMAYOR,	*ACLC BUTUAN*
(Sgd) PADO G. LLANES,	*AMACC DAGUPAN*
(Sgd) PATRICK DANCEL,	*AMACC - PARANAQUE*
(Sgd) PAULINA DINGLASAN,	*ACLC DASMARINAS*
(Sgd) PAULINE ENRIQUEZ,	*AMACC - CAVITE*
(Sgd) PRINCESS GUIA CHING,	*ACLC NORTHBAY*
(Sgd) QUINN MARLON ALDAS,	*AMACC CALAMBA*
(Sgd) RAMON FULGENCIO,	*ACLC GUIMBA*
(Sgd) RANE JOHN MANUBAG,	*AMACC DAVAO*
(Sgd) RASKINA GUMAGA,	*ACLC GENSAN*
(Sgd) REA FELIPE,	*ACLC MALOLOS*
(Sgd) RHEY RIGOR,	*AMACC TUGUEGARAO*
(Sgd) RICHARD ORLANDA,	*AMACC MAKATI*
(Sgd) RIZA GO, PRESIDENT,	*AMA LOS BANOS*
(Sgd) RODULFO SANTOS,	*ACLC SAN PEDRO*
(Sgd) ROMANO MACAPAGAL,	*AMACC TARLAC*
(Sgd) ROMMEL CALINGASAN,	*AMACC LIPA*
(Sgd) RONALD ESPARAS,	*ACLC GUADALUPE*
(Sgd) ROSALINA BAGSIC,	*SASN LIPA*
(Sgd) ROSANNA CABICA,	*AMACC-LAS PINAS*
(Sgd) ROSE EDEN TANTIANGCO,	*ACLC OLONGAPO*
(Sgd) SANDITH BISWETEN,	*AMACC SANTIAGO*
(Sgd) SHIRLEY TAMAYO,	*AMACC - MALOLOS*
(Sgd) SUZANNE P. CABALLERO,	*SPECTRUM*
(Sgd) TERESITA PANIT,	*SASN-ILOILO*
(Sgd) VANESSA VIOJAN,	*AIIT CUBAO*
(Sgd) VIRGILIO EMRADURA,	*STUDENT COUNCIL*
(Sgd) VLADEMIR DELOS REYES,	*AMACC BATANGAS*
(Sgd) WILFREDO REGAL,	*AIIT CUBAO*
(Sgd) WILSON JABILES,	*AMA/ABE CEBU*
(Sgd) EDEZA GEGRIMAL,	*AMACC ILOILO*
(Sgd) ADRIAN V. BERRNABE,	*AMACC CABANATUAN*
(Sgd) CHERYLL JOY R. GONZALES,	*ABE MANILA*
(Sgd) JAN MARTIN CALUCO,	*ACLC COMMONWEALTH*
(Sgd) EVERARDO TABANAO,	*SASN DAVAO*
(Sgd) ANTHEA LUCERO,	*ACLC GUIUAN*
(Sgd) MARIA MARIELLA CORPUZ,	*ACLC GUIUAN*
(Sgd) MA. SALVACION,	*ACLC GUIUAN*
(Sgd) VILLA C. LAVILLA,	*ACLC GUIUAN*

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

No more 'girl talk' for GMA, pals at Palace

By Blanche S. Rivera

NO MORE girl talk for President Macapagal-Arroyo.

What used to be "girl sessions" in Malacañang ended with the resignation of the President's girl friends in the Cabinet last week, Environment Secretary Michael T. Defensor said yesterday.

Defensor, one of the President's closest advisers, said that the President was still hurt and sad by what he called the betrayal of her friends, particularly former Social Welfare Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman and presidential adviser for the peace process Teresita "Ging" Deles.

"She's tough... (but) she's affected by what happened in the Cabinet. Most of those who left, particularly the women, were close to her. They had their own girl sessions," Defensor said in a forum of the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines yesterday.

He said the female Cabinet members had more access to Ms Arroyo than the men.

"They would have tea and coffee among themselves, and they would talk about so many things; I don't know what they talked about. I never had that and neither did the other members of the Cabinet who were perceived to be close to the President," Defensor said.

"We can never say to the President: Can we talk with you one on one? Can we have coffee with you? That never happened with us," he said.

The women, on the other hand, would simply call the President and ask if they could sit down with her to discuss things over coffee.

Even the finance group within Malacañang who had broken away and joined calls for the President's resignation, had been "spoiled," Defensor said.

"There was really betrayal," Defensor, Arroyo's political spokesperson during the elections, said.

Aside from Soliman and Deles, those who often joined the girl sessions according to Defensor were Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas, Science Secretary Estrella Alabastro, Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin and Official Development Assistance Secretary Mai Jimenez, a former classmate of the President's.

Defensor said Deles in particular had "her own time" with the President as Ms Arroyo supported the Kalahi Foundation, an initiative of civil society members who were part of the Cabinet.

Of the six Cabinet women, only Sto. Tomas, Jimenez and Alabastro have not left Ms Arroyo amid the political crisis. Soliman, Deles and Boncodin have called for the President's resignation.

BREAKTHROUGH IN CANCER CURE!

A herbal extract from nata de coco tested
effective against cancer diseases at
UP Institute of Biology

Contact: Sir Ton Agustin
for more information.
Cell numbers: 09209060992, 09209100806

CITYLAND
LEADING CONDOMINIUM DEVELOPER

READY for OCCUPANCY by JULY 2006

MAKATI
EXECUTIVE
TOWERS I &II

Dela Rosa St.,
Pio Del Pilar, Makati City

COMPLETED
6 months in advance
P21,112 (1-BR) /mo.
HLURB License to Sell#04867

Own a condominium unit
for as low as
IN-HOUSE FINANCING AVAILABLE

ARCHITECTURAL WORKS
in full swing
P8,558/mo.
HLURB License to Sell#08177

CITYLAND *812-2222 *243-6565 *818-8888 *241-1894 *892-6150
*(0919)310-8553 www.cityland.net • investment@cityland.net

New Customs chief pledges new schemes to meet goals

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE NEWLY-APPOINTED customs commissioner yesterday said he would implement new strategies to ensure the revenue-generating agency would meet its target collection amid fears of an economic crisis following the political turmoil gripping the nation.

Alexander Arevalo, the new officer-in-charge of the Bureau of Customs, said his three instructions to his personnel are simple: "Number one, meet the target; number two, meet the target; number three, if you miss instruction number two, go to number one."

Arevalo was appointed customs officer in charge after the resignation of Alberto Lina, who was one of 10 cabinet officials who not only resigned their posts last week but also called on the President to step down. Former Landbank president Margarito Teves was also appointed Finance secretary to replace Cesar Purisima, leader of the so-called Hyatt 10.

The President has been beset with criticism regarding her alleged participation in election fraud after her wiretapped conversations were revealed to the public.

Decentralized operations

Speaking to reporters after turnover ceremonies at the bureau yesterday, Arevalo said he would decentralize operations at the bureau in order to give its 15 district collectors more elbow room to meet their target collections.

"I will give them enough authority, responsibility and accountability for them to be able to do their jobs. I will decentralize operations," he said.

The Customs bureau, one of the country's biggest revenue generators, is tasked to collect P151.185 billion for 2005. In the last two quarters, it failed to meet its target, albeit by small margins.

For the third quarter, the bureau is aiming to collect P38.962 billion.

The new customs chief said he would be meeting as well with the private sector to get their suggestions on how the bureau could improve its services.

Arevalo also said he would not implement a revamp at the bureau in the meantime.

"I believe the best possible source of personnel and expertise is the BOC. I intend, as OIC of the BOC, to maximize the capability of its people," he said.

12-hour workday

Arevalo said he would also continue to enforce the 12-hour workday started by Lina to enable businesses to finish more transactions at a quicker pace and to foster a better working environment.

He also said he would implement his predecessor's "aggressive effort" to help exporters in working with the bureau.

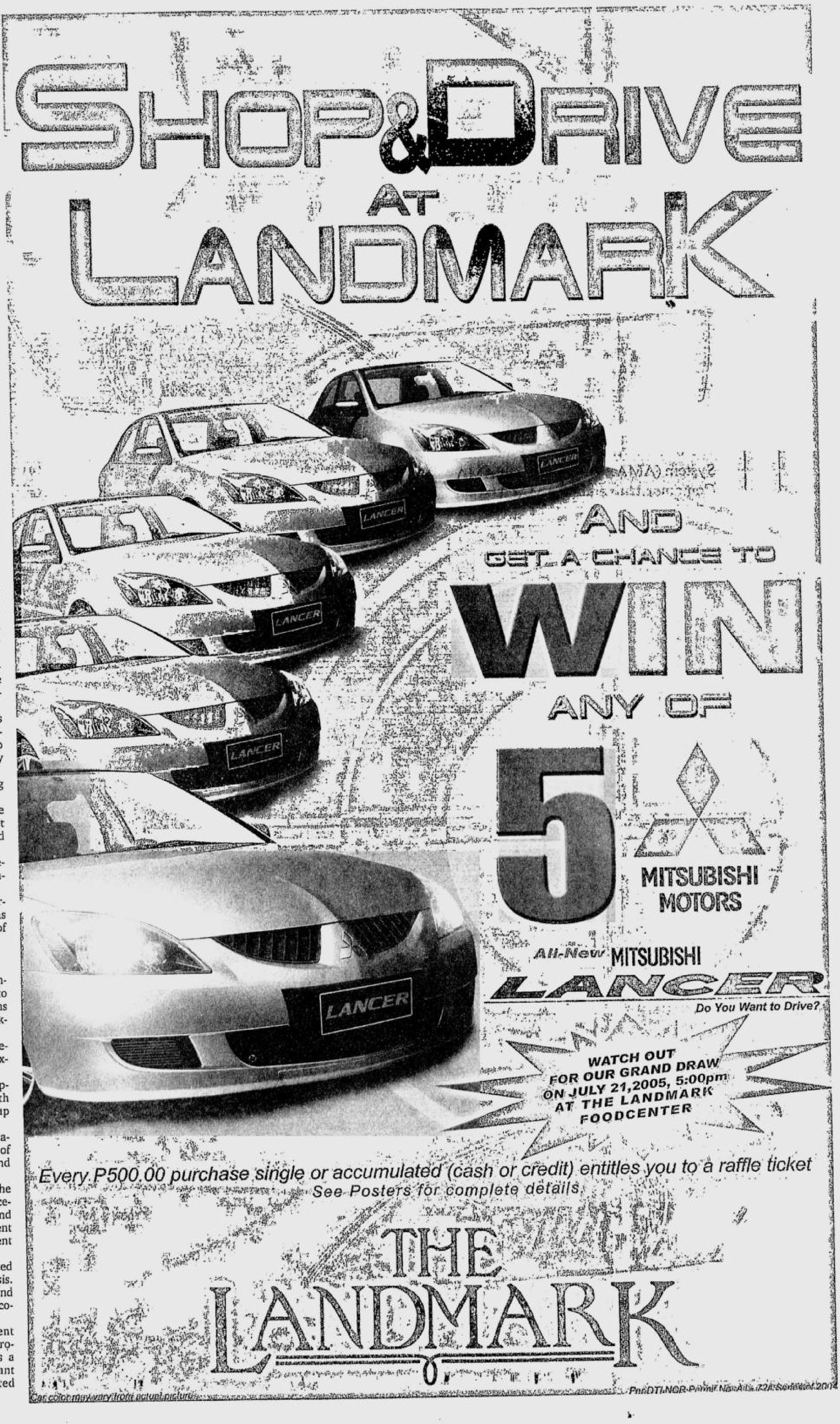
As for the drive against illegal shipments, Arevalo said he would meet with the anti-smuggling task force to draw up strategies.

Meanwhile, a non-government organization yesterday lauded the appointment of Arevalo as Customs officer in charge and Teves as Finance secretary.

In a statement, Roy Sangil, president of the Association for the Socio-economic Advancement of Pinoys (ASAP), said Arevalo and Teves were the best choice to fulfill President Macapagal-Arroyo's economic development program.

Sangil said Teves' appointment is expected to gear the economy out of its present crisis. He said his expertise as a politician and banker is sure to help him achieve the economic goals of the administration.

Sangil also said Arevalo's appointment as Customs OIC was welcome news to brokers and employees, saying Arevalo is a "dedicated and honest public servant whose career in government is not tainted with corruption."



SHOP & DRIVE
AT
LANDMARK

AND
GET A CHANCE TO
WIN
ANY OF
5

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

All-New MITSUBISHI
LANCER
Do You Want to Drive?

WATCH OUT
FOR OUR GRAND DRAW
ON JULY 21,2005, 5:00pm
AT THE LANDMARK
FOODCENTER

Every P500.00 purchase single or accumulated (cash or credit) entitles you to a raffle ticket
See Posters for complete details

THE
LANDMARK

Car color may vary from actual picture.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. [illegible] Series of 2004

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Suicide bombers feared behind London attacks

LEEDS, England—New evidence suggests four suicide bombers, including at least three Britons of Pakistani descent, carried out the terror attacks in London, officials said. Surveillance cameras captured the men as they arrived in the capital 20 minutes before the explosions began.

Police raided six homes in Leeds Tuesday searching for explosives and computer files that would shed more light on what were believed to be the first suicide bombings in Western Europe. They arrested a man, identified by the British news agency Press Association as a relative of one of the suspected bombers.

A town councilor told The Associated Press that at least three of the presumed suicide bombers were British citizens of Pakistani ancestry.

One was thought to be Shahzad Tanweer, a 22-year-old cricket-loving sports science graduate, and another was a teenager, Press Association reported.

On its website, The Times newspaper named Tanweer, as well as Leeds residents Hasib Hussain, 19, and Mohammed Sidique Khan, the 30-year-old father of an 8-month-old baby. The newspaper said police were still trying to identify the fourth bomber.

Without citing sources, the Times said the mastermind behind the attacks as well as the bombmaker were still thought to be at large. Police found a "bomb factory" during the Leeds raids, the newspaper said. Police did not identify the four suspects.

Press Association said the men had driven a rental car to Luton, 50 km north of London, and then boarded a commuter train to London's King's Cross station. Police closed Luton's train station and carried out nine controlled explosions on a parked car, which the BBC reported contained explosives.

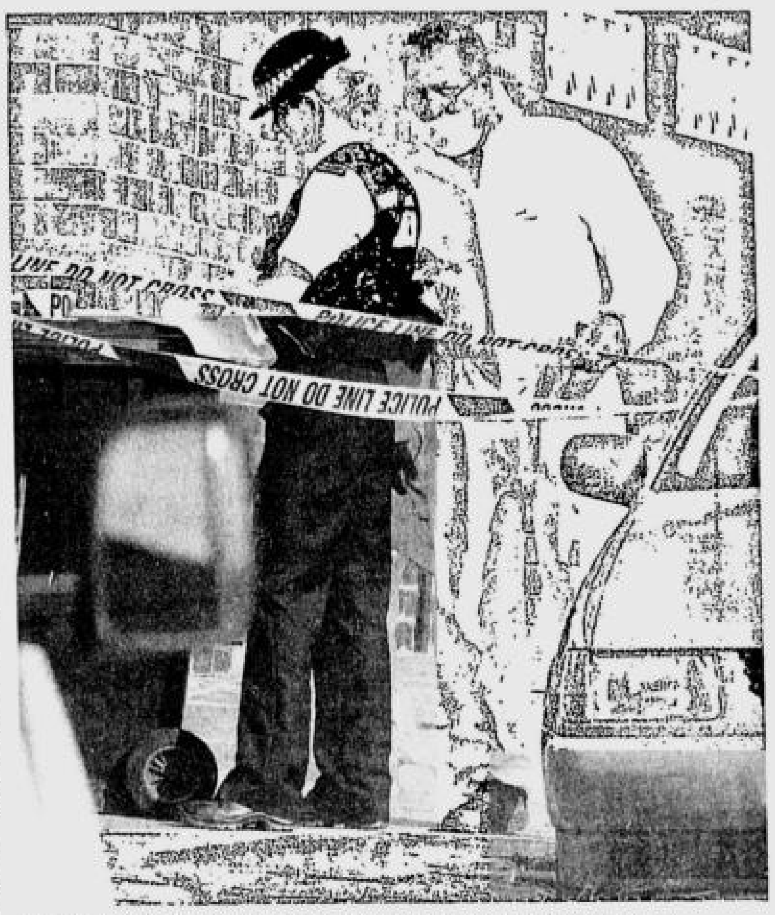
Closed-circuit TV video showed all four men arriving at King's Cross by 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, about 20 minutes before the blasts began, said Peter Clarke, head of the Metropolitan Police antiterrorist branch.

US intelligence agencies are checking the names of the London bombers against their databases looking for any US connection, US President George W. Bush told chief executives at a private White House meeting Tuesday.

Two militant Islamic groups have claimed responsibility for the bombings, which killed at least 52 people.

Although police stopped short of calling them suicide attacks, Clarke said "strong forensic and other evidence" suggests one of the suspects was killed in a subway bombing and property belonging to the three others was found at the locations of the other blasts.

"The investigation quite early led us to have concerns about the movements and activities of four men, three of whom came from the West Yorkshire area," Clarke said. *AP*


POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

POLICE officers search the area near the house of suspects in connection to last week's deadly bombings, on Colwyn Road in Leeds July 13. AFP

Car bomb kills 24 Iraqi children

BAGHDAD—Twenty-four Iraqi children and a US soldier were killed Wednesday morning in a suicide car bomb attack in southeastern Baghdad, hospital sources and US forces said.

Some 20 more children were wounded, along with three US soldiers.

"A driver approached one of the US humvees and then detonated his car," said Sergeant David Abrams.

Witness Mohammed Ali Hamza, 25, said US forces turned up in the Al-Jedidah district to warn residents to stay indoors because of reports of a car bomb in the area.

"Children gathered round the Americans who were handing out sweets. Suddenly a suicide car bomber drove round from a side street and blew himself up," he added.

"I was at home. I heard the explosion. I rushed outside to find my son. I only found his bicycle," said Abu Hamed, whose 12-year-old son Mohammed was killed in the attack.

He was speaking at Kindi hospital where hundreds of distraught parents mingled in blood-soaked hallways shouting and screaming.

He said he had found his son in the hospital morgue.

"I recognized him from his head. The rest of the body was completely burnt," he said.

Hassan Mohammed, whose 13-year-old son Alaa also died, swore at insurgents for attacking civilians.

"Why do they attack our children? They just destroyed one US Humvee, but they killed dozens of our children," he said as women at the hospital screamed and slapped their faces and beat themselves over the head.

"What sort of a resistance is this? It's a crime," he added.

The last major attack involving children was a triple car bomb on Sept. 30 against US troops inaugurating a water treatment plant in western Baghdad which killed 43 people including 37 children. *AFP*

3 trains collide in Pakistan; up to 150 killed

GHOTKI, Pakistan—Three crowded passenger trains collided in a devastating crash at a station in southern Pakistan Wednesday, killing up to 150 people, injuring 1,000 and leaving many others trapped, officials said.

The driver of one express misread a signal and ploughed into a stationary train full of sleeping passengers near the remote town of Ghotki, then a third train slammed head-on into the wreckage, according to railway officials.

Rescuers were trying to save dozens of people still imprisoned in the mangled carriages of the three trains, which lay scattered amid piles of debris and body parts.

"It's a painful scene. There are bodies scattered all over. People are crying, fathers are looking for children, husbands for their wives and brothers for their sisters," a witness told AFP by telephone.

Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf ordered an urgent investigation and promised to punish those responsible for the pre-dawn pile-up, the country's worst in 15 years.

"It's a tragic accident, I am deeply saddened I express my condolences," he told state television. "It was not sabotage, it appears to have been caused by some carelessness."

Musharraf said 107 people were confirmed dead but Chaudhry Nazir Ahmed, divisional superintendent of Pakistan Railways, told AFP that about 150 had been killed.

Local hospitals reported that 132 bodies had been brought in so far and rescue workers continued to pull more from the carriages, officials said.

Around 1,000 people were injured, local police chief Agha Mohammad Tahir said. Many of the victims were women and children.

The accident happened when one of the trains, the Quetta Express, stopped for repairs at Sarhad station near Ghotki and the Karachi Express coming from Lahore smashed into it around 4 a.m.

A number of carriages were catapulted onto a parallel track and a third train, the Tez Gam Express heading for Islamabad's Rawalpindi, then careened into them.

Railway officials blamed the Karachi Express driver for misreading a signal at Sarhad station that turned green to allow the Quetta Express to move off.

The train was traveling at a speed of 120 km an hour when it hit and the driver and his assistant were both killed, Junaid Qureshi, a senior railway official, told AFP.

"The driver of the Karachi Express thought the signal allowed him to pass and he rammed into the rear part of the Quetta Express," Qureshi said. *AFP*

Worse yet to come – Iraqi PM

BAGHDAD—Iraqi Prime Minister Ibrahim Jaafari has told his violence-weary nation to brace for even larger attacks as insurgents exact revenge on the government for its "success" in rebuilding the country.

At least 10 Iraqis were killed in a new spate of attacks that followed a bloody sequence of days for the Iraqi security forces, as US Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick met Jaafari in Baghdad in a bid to boost the reconstruction process.

Speaking in parliament, Jaafari said the recent kidnapping and killing of Egypt's top envoy to Baghdad by alleged Al-Qaida militants was a direct response to the success of the Brussels donors conference for Iraq's reconstruction held on June 22.

"The killing of the late Ihab al-Sharif was nothing but an expression of the success of the political process," Jaafari said.

"So we must prepare ourselves that every time we make progress in the process and every time we make big achievements the reaction will be big. This operation (Sharif's killing) aims to undermine the major political progress we achieved in a short time." An Iraqi foreign ministry delegation is being dispatched to Cairo to try to close the rift between the two countries that emerged after the killing of Sharif, who was kidnapped from a Baghdad street on July 2.

President Jalal Talabani met Iraq's envoy to Cairo Safia al-Suhail and asked her to deliver a letter to President Hosni Mubarak and another to Sharif's family, said a statement from his office.

Egypt has cut its staff at its Baghdad mission and has vehemently rejected accusations by Iraqi officials that Sharif may have compromised his security by contacts he may have had with Sunni Arab militants, saying these statements were attempts by Iraq to absolve itself of responsibility for Sharif's death.

Sunni Arab hardliners are blamed for fueling the raging insurgency more than two years after Saddam Hussein's fall and for preventing their community from taking part in the political process.

US forces arrested late Monday Sheikh Talal Abdelkarim al-Matar, a senior Sunni Arab tribal leader from the area around Samarra, north of Baghdad, Iraqi police said.

In fresh violence, the US military said four suspected insurgents and an Iraqi policeman were killed in clashes in the restive northern city of Mosul.

And masked gunmen shot dead four people, including the head of an Iraqi rights group in a raid on the offices of a building contractor in Baghdad.

Those killed included Ali Yunes al-Shamaa, director of group identified as the international organisation for the monitoring of Iraqi human rights, as well as a staff member, an estate agent and the contractor.

Another member of the NGO was wounded.

US soldiers shot dead an Iraqi soldier and wounded another when the car they were travelling in failed to stop at a checkpoint in Fallujah, west of Baghdad, the US military said.

In Baghdad, an Iraqi police colonel was killed while traveling in his car and a police captain was gunned down outside his flat in the capital, security sources said. *AFP*

Prince Albert takes Monaco throne

MONACO—Kneeling before the archbishop of Monaco, Prince Albert II on Tuesday received the blessing that marked his formal accession to the throne of the Mediterranean microstate, synonymous with high living, gambling and jet-set glamour.

The new ruler, who took over after his father Prince Rainier who died in April this year, pledged to help Monaco play a more important role on international financial markets but said the authorities here must play by ethical rules.

"It is my firm intention to contribute towards making Monaco one of the world poles in financial engineering, by adding management skills to the already renowned banking skills," he said in a speech during a reception for 6,000 of the principality's 32,000 residents.

"Monaco must develop state-of-the-art know-how in this domain to render our private equity pole capable of operating efficiently on all markets.

"I intend however that ethics remain the backdrop for all the actions of the Monegasque authorities. Ethics are not divisible. Money and virtue must be combined permanently," he said.

"The importance of Monaco's financial market will require extreme vigilance to avoid the development of the type of financial activities which are not welcome in our country." After the prince had stopped speaking, yachts in the harbour responded by sounding their horns.

Albert took the throne on behalf of the ruling Grimaldi family less than a week after confirming that he had fathered the child of a French-Togolese former flight attendant.

Church bells rang out and the small crowd gathered outside the cathedral cheered and clapped as Albert and his relatives left the church, where Rainier and his late film star wife Grace Kelly are buried.

The Grimaldis walked the few hundred meters back to their hilltop palace, where they hosted a garden party for senior Monaco officials in the hot summer sun.

It was the first official outing for Albert and his sisters, Stephanie and Caroline — whose tempestuous affairs have for years filled the pages of the celebrity press — since Rainier's funeral in April.

Albert donned a dark suit for the solemn mass in the cathedral, Caroline was fitted out in a checked coat, a wide-brimmed black hat and long white gloves, while Stephanie wore a white and pink floral dress.

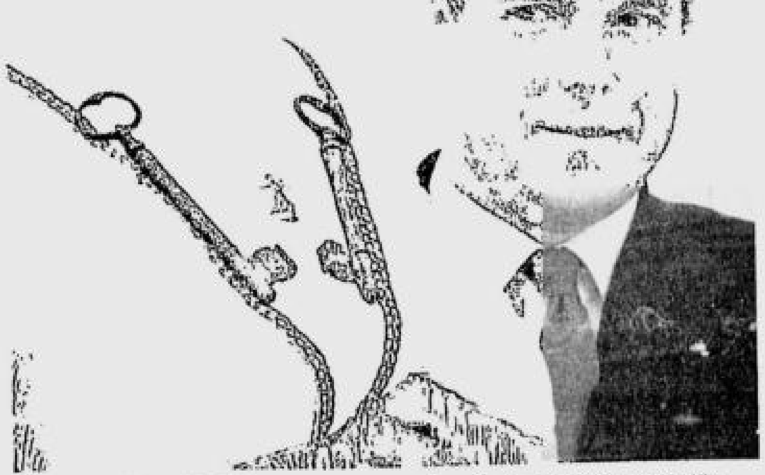
"We're delighted with him!" said one of the onlookers, Virginie Nigione, a retired Monegasque who ran a delicatessen in the principality for 40 years.

"The fact that he officially recognised his son shows that he's a very modern prince," she added.

Albert, a 47-year-old bachelor whose fortune is estimated at some two billion euros (2.4 billion dollars), admitted last Wednesday, the last day of official mourning for Rainier, that he was a father.

The boy, 22-month-old Alexandre Coste, cannot become ruler of Monaco under current succession laws that exclude illegitimate children, but will "want for nothing" in his life, the prince told French television on Monday.

Albert refused during the television interview to confirm or deny that he had fathered other children with former lovers. *AFP*



PRINCE Albert II of Monaco presents the city keys to the crowd in front of Princess Stephanie July 12 at the Monaco's Palace, after his accession to the throne. The investiture comes less than a week after Albert confirmed he was the father of a 22-month-old boy. AFP

THANKS TO MY NU/HART HAIR TRANSPLANT I NOW HAVE A NATURAL & PERMANENT SOLUTION TO HAIR LOSS

BEFORE

A.S. - Nu/Hart Client

Nu/Hart Hair Clinics has performed over 25,000 hair restoration procedures on clients from over 40 countries around the world – and has now brought its American clinical expertise to the Philippines.

This simple outpatient procedure takes only a few hours, allowing most clients to return to their normal daily routine within a day or two.

If you're thinning or balding, take the first step in restoring your own natural growing hair. Call Nu/Hart Manila now to schedule your FREE, private, no obligation consultation and find out if you are a good candidate for hair restoration.

Call or visit us now for a FREE CONSULTATION. 638-6000

visit our website at www.nuhart.com or email us at manila@nuhartme.com

26/F Wynsum Plaza, 22 F. Ortigas Jr. Road (formerly Emerald Avenue) Ortigas (Behind Discovery Suites)

CONSULTATIONS AVAILABLE IN CEBU AND DAVAO

0% INTEREST MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE HSBC Card Holders & Others via Dominion Financing

NU/HART HAIR CLINICS

There's a new you waiting at Nu/Hart.

Manila • New York • Chicago • Atlanta • Pittsburgh • Philadelphia • Puerto Rico • Dubai

Results may vary

Where you find the best.

VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB Market
JOBMarket ONLINE

KISS YOUR
BAD BREATH
GOODBYE
Now and Forever

TheraBreath™ System works wonders. A sure cure to eliminate harmful bacteria that cause BAD BREATH, gum disease, tooth decay and plaque. Removes sour/bitter tastes, thick pasty saliva, phlegm in throat, destroys awful morning breath & food odor.

Gain confidence. Improve your social life

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
Free Delivery w/in Metro Manila
Tel: 890-8380 ; 895-5532; 897-2466
Cel#09177965859 ;0919-5109455

Say yes to this Portable Hard Cleaner!

Yes
Wet & Dry
Vacuum Cleaner

With AFTER SALES SERVICE
FREE DELIVERY within Metro Manila
Major Credit Cards Accepted.
Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.
Exclusively Distributed by: CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INC.
MAIN OFFICE: 1851 M. OROSA ST., MALATE, MLA. Tel. Nos. 5244328 • 5240529 • 5245290
QUEZON CITY BRANCH: 646 QUEZON AVE. Tel. Nos. 7490581 • 7493709

The First and the Biggest Ostrich Farm in the Philippines
Established 1996. Accredited by the PAWB-DENR, BAI-DA and NMIC-DA

BIG BIRD
OSTRICH CHICKS
2-3 WEEK OLD
P8,000.00 per head
FOB Cagayan de Oro City

Also available Juveniles and Breeders.

We also sell Big Bird Ostrich Meat, Ostrich Eggshells and Ostrich Leather/Leather Products.

For more information, please call:
PHILIPPINE OSTRICH & CROCODILE FARMS, INC.
Limketkai Corporate Office, Cagayan de Oro City
9000 Philippines
Phone: +63(88)857.5988
e-mail:pork@ostrich.com.ph
www.ostrich.com.ph

idec®
AIRCONDITIONING
Split Type Aircon
1hp P16,500
1.5hp P18,500 2hp P25,000
2.5hp P30,000
Free Installation!
Call 8866696/7880221
Available at MC Home Depot -Makati, Fort Bonifacio & Ortigas

GENERICS
FACTORY PRICE April-22-05
Cash • No Minimum Order • Money Back Guarantee

Amoxicillin Cap. 500 mg	Box of 100's	105.00
Carbocisteine Cap. 500 mg	Box of 100's	90.00
Cephalexine Cap. 500mg	Box of 100's	238.00
Ciprofloxacin HCL Tab. 500mg	Box of 100's	238.00
Co-trimoxazole Tab. (400/80 mg)	Box of 100's	59.00
Mefenamic Acid Cap. 500 mg	Box of 100's	61.00
Multi-vitamin Cap.	Box of 100's	93.00
Paracetamol Tablet 500 mg	Box of 100's	24.00
Salbutamol Tab. 2 mg	Box of 100's	21.00
Silymarin Cap. 125 mg (FRANCE)	Box of 50's	525.00
Vitamin B1 + B6 + B12 Tab	Box of 100's	85.00
Vitamin E Softgels 400 I.U. (USA)	Bot. of 500's	1,100.00

CNN GENERICS
R 210 LC Bldg., 459 Quezon Ave., Q.C.
Tel(s) : 410-1337•410 0815
410-1451•741-7763
Fax : 410 5216
E mail : lowprice@cnn generics.com visit: www.cnn-generics.com
Amoxicillin P 105
We welcome dealers/distributors!

FOR ALL YOUR AUTO REPAIR AND SERVICE NEEDS...
NAME IT! WE'VE GOT IT!
Anson Auto Service Center
LOWEST PRICE YOU EXPECT IN THE TIME YOU WANT
DRIVE IN FOR A CHECK-UP!
SEE THE DIFFERENCE AND FEEL THE RESULTS.
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
AYALA CENTER, A. ARNAIZ AVENUE (FORMERLY PASAY ROAD), CORNER WEST DRIVE, MAKATI CITY
8922212 • 8922213 • 8922214
8867552 • 8867551

A. ARNAIZ AVE. (FORMERLY PASAY ROAD)
THIS WAY
ANSON AUTO SERVICE CENTER
ANSON EMPORIUM
AYALA BUS TERMINAL
PARKING
PARKING
PARK SQUARE 2
WEST DRIVE
MAKATI AVENUE
THIS WAY

OPEN MONDAY TO SUNDAY

The Most Advanced Waterproofing Systems

MAPEI Water proofing for concrete

Idrosilex Pronto
Fast, Easy, Practical, Permanent and Ready-to-Use waterproofing mortar for concrete surfaces. Since it is mortar based it is compatible with concrete and is 100% leak and seepage proof.

Mapelastic
Two component, flexible cementitious mortar for the protection and waterproofing of concrete surfaces, balconies, terraces, bathrooms and swimming pools

GENERAL MEMBRANE General Membrane
Plastometric Type Modified Waterproofing Membrane
Used in concrete roof deck, bathroom, balconies by torch application
- High mechanical characteristics • High elongation
- High puncture resistance • Will not decay

DEXTERTON
Dexterton Corporation
Address
157 Sgt. E. Rivera St., Quezon City
Tel: 362-1111, 361-6006 Fax No: 362-0524
email: info@dexterton.com
website: www.dexterton.com

July 12, 2005

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
EQUITABLE PCI BANK, INC.
Equitable PCI Bank Towers
Makati Avenue cor. H.V. dela Costa St.
Salcedo Village, Makati City
Metro Manila

Thru *Mr. Antonio L. Go*
Chairman

Atty. Nilo T. Divina
Executive Vice President/Corporate Secretary

Gentlemen:

We, the undersigned stockholders of Equitable PCI Bank, Inc. (the "Corporation"), interpose our vehement objection to any attempt to reset or postpone the Annual Stockholders' Meeting of the Corporation scheduled on July 19, 2005, at 3:00 p.m. at the Francisco Santiago Hall, Mezzanine Floor, Equitable PCI Bank Tower I, Makati Avenue corner H.V. de la Costa Street, Makati City, Metro Manila.

We have heard reports that the controlling Directors aligned with the Go Family may attempt to cause the resetting or postponement of the said annual meeting. The resetting of the annual stockholders' meeting will be tantamount to fraudulently depriving the stockholders of the Corporation of their right to vote or elect new directors of the Corporation and will result in the present Board of Directors perpetuating themselves unnecessarily in office. It has come to our attention that the controlling directors may even cause a friendly stockholder to file a case in court to secure a temporary restraining order to prevent the Corporation from holding the annual meeting on July 19, 2005, as scheduled.

Please be reminded that under Section 2 Article III of the Corporation's By-Laws, holders of at least one-third (1/3) of the issued capital stock of the Corporation may call a special meeting of the stockholders for any purpose, at any time. Therefore, stockholders holding more than one-third (1/3) of the issued capital stock should be able to counter or reject a postponement of the annual meeting of stockholders.

In any event, please consider this as a call of the undersigned stockholders, who hold more than one-third (1/3) of the issued capital stock of the Corporation, to convene the stockholders' meeting scheduled on July 19, 2005, and which meeting may therefore not be postponed or reset without our prior consent. Otherwise, our right as stockholders to call a meeting under the abovementioned provision of the Corporation's By-Laws will be rendered illusory if it can be defeated by a mere notice of postponement issued by the Board of Directors.

Kindly give this matter your utmost serious attention.

Sincerely,

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
By:

CORAZON S. DE LA PAZ

GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM
By:

WINSTON F. GARCIA

Copy furnished:

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills
Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila
Philippines
Attention MS. FE BARIN
Chairman

ATTY. JUSTINA F. CALLANGAN
Director, Corporation Finance Department

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Hunt for al-Qaida fugitives intensified

KABUL—Hundreds of US and Afghan troops searched on Tuesday for four al-Qaida militants who escaped from the main US military detention center in Afghanistan in what is a major embarrassment for American forces.

A police officer and senior Afghan government official in Kabul had earlier said one of the escapees from Bagram Air Base had been recaptured but local Afghan authorities said this was not so.

Bagram district chief Kabir Ahmad said a man arrested at a mosque northwest of the base on Tuesday was not one of the escapees but someone with a mental disorder who had been mistaken for one of the four.

A manhunt involving hundreds of US and Afghan troops backed by helicopters was launched on Monday after what was the first ever escape from the heavily guarded center deep within Bagram, the largest US base in Afghanistan.

The escape has been a major embarrassment for the US military, which invaded Afghanistan in 2001 to overthrow the fundamentalist Taliban government after it refused to hand over Osama bin Laden and other al-Qaida leaders responsible for the Sept. 11 attacks.

The military said there would be an investigation.

"It is a very serious matter for us," Lt. Col. Jerry O'Hara said when asked if the escapees might have received inside help from guards. "We will carry out an investigation on the issue certainly."

He has declined to name the men he termed "dangerous enemy combatants" but Afghan officials said they were Syrian Abdullah Hashimi, Kuwaiti Mahmoud Ahmad Mohammad, Saudi Mahmoud Alfatahni and Libyan Mohammad Hassan.

The US military provided Afghan security forces with photographs of the escapees, which showed bearded men in orange prison uniforms whose ages appeared to range from 20 to 40.

Kabir Ahmad, the chief of Bagram district, said he had heard the men might have escaped the base by car.

Detainees at Bagram have included senior al-Qaida suspects arrested in neighboring Pakistan and elsewhere and a US military spokesperson said about 450 militant suspects were held there.

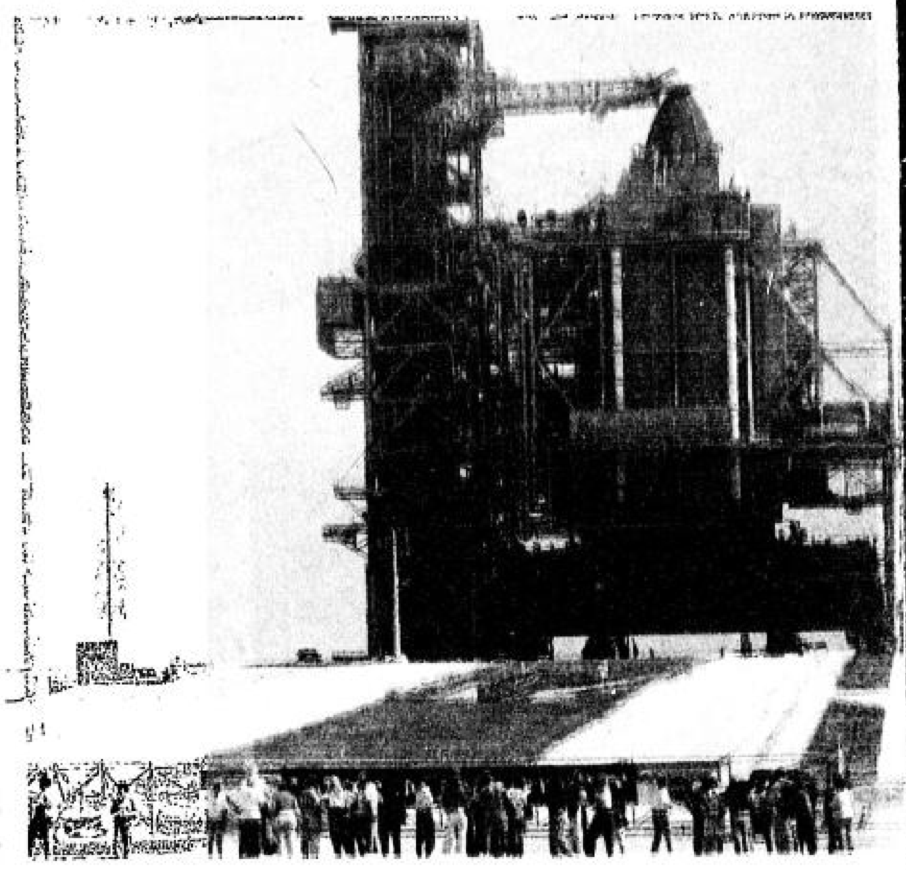
Monday's escape follows a painful two weeks for the US military in which it suffered 19 deaths in its worst losses in a single combat operation in Afghanistan.

The losses have made 2005 the bloodiest year for US forces in the country and have come amid increased militant violence ahead of Sept. 18 parliamentary elections.

Taliban guerrilla spokesperson Abdul Latif Hakimi called the escape a propaganda disaster for the Americans.

"It's a big embarrassment for them," he said. "In the past, there was this feeling the Americans were so powerful they could work miracles, but this shows clearly they can be vulnerable."

Reuters



Shuttle launch 'a go

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.—Nasa will go ahead with the first space shuttle mission since the 2003 Columbia disaster after replacing two damaged heat-resistant tiles on the shuttle Discovery, a spokesperson said on Tuesday.

"The issue has been resolved. Launch is a go," said Nasa spokesperson Mike Rein.

The two tiles were damaged when a plastic window cover weighing less than 1 kg fell off Discovery as the spacecraft sat on the launch pad at Cape Canaveral in Florida, during the countdown to Wednesday's scheduled launch at 3:51 p.m.

The damage caused by falling debris rang alarm bells because that was precisely the problem that doomed Columbia.

In that case, Columbia's left wing was damaged by a chunk of foam insulation that weighed 0.76 kg.

The damage opened a hole in Columbia's skin that let in superheated gas during re-entry, tearing the ship apart and killing all seven astronauts.

"This is a minor repair for us," Stephanie Stilson, Discovery's manager, told reporters after a panel that contained the two damaged tiles was replaced. "They have given us a go for launch."

The shuttle's window covers are removed before launch.

The damage repai
hours after Nasa's ad
Michael Griffin, had
sues except possible b
had been settled an
was ready for launch.

"Everything is at
Yesterday we were
couple of ... issues and
amply put to bed, s
good shape," Griffin s
that he hoped "the w
are kind for tomorrow

"Can there be som
we don't know abo
bite us? Yeah, this is a
ness, it's a very tou
but everything that
about has been cover

Nasa has not flow
mission since Colum
grated over Texas
2003.

Discovery's missio
improvements made
tle to reduce fallin
liftoff and experim
dures for repairing da
resistant tiles.

The shuttle, unde
mand of veteran astro
Collins, will also de
needed supplies and
to the International
tion. The station's
tion—a 16-country p
been on hold since th
three-shuttle fleet wa

Nasa weather fore
the outlook for launc

A record performance.
Equitable PCI BANK

Equitable PCI Bank. Your Bank of Choice.

Equitable PCI Bank posted a remarkable performance in 2004, a result of dedicated and extraordinary effort by the Bank to improve products, services and distribution network, and ensure financial health and profitability. Such performance is nothing short of what investors, depositors, partners and shareholders expect – truly worthy of being your Bank of Choice.

- Net income grew 39% over the previous year to a record P1.8 billion – the highest in six years
- Total resources rose 7% to P310 billion, deposits were up 4% to P194 billion and net loans expanded 14% to P138 billion
- Capital increased 5% to P41.4 billion with capital adequacy ratio at 14.3% which is comfortably above the regulatory minimum of 10%
- Cash dividends of P436 million were declared, resuming a practice of returning excess capital to shareholders
- The Bank's share price had nearly doubled to P48 over three years, representing a compounded annual return to shareholders of 25% compared to the Phisix's 16% rise from 2001 to 2004
- Our credit card subsidiary retained its leading position in the industry, achieving a 16% increase in cardholder base and 22% hike in billings
- PCI Leasing and Finance maintained its dominance in the leasing and finance sector with a 37% surge in net income and 46% expansion in total resources
- Our remittance unit sustained its major industry ranking with a 16% increase in pure OFW remittances – the second year in a row of above industry growth
- Our Trust Banking group grew total assets under management to over P100 billion, strengthening its position as the country's third largest asset manager

Equitable PCI BANK
Your Bank of Choice

Contact our Call Center at 84-911 (Metro Manila)
PLDT 1-800-188-84-911 and Digitel 1-800-333-84-911 (Provincial)
visit www.equitablepclb.com

Philippines SUPER BRAND 2005 Gold

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum Deposit Insurance for Each Depositor ₱250,000.

WORLDBR

Top Zarqawi aide nabbed

WASHINGTON—A key aide to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the leading al-Qaida operative in Iraq, has been captured by US forces in Iraq, in what the top American general described late Tuesday as a "pretty good success." But Joint Chiefs of Staff Chair General Richard Myers acknowledged that coalition troops in Iraq faced "a very dangerous insurgency" that is far from being on its death bed. "Just yesterday on the battlefield, we picked up Zarqawi's main leader in Baghdad, they call him the Emir of Baghdad, Abu Abd al-Aziz, and that's going to hurt that operation of Zarqawi's pretty significantly," Myers said in an interview with PBS's "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer" program. He did not offer any details, and other defense officials were not immediately ready to talk about the circumstances of the capture. The US military has reported raiding a terrorist safe-house west of the notorious Abu Ghraib prison late Sunday and arresting two men described as "targeted terrorists." *AFP*

Assassination try

BEIRUT—Lebanon's pro-Syrian Defense Minister Elias Murr survived an apparent assassination attempt with light wounds when a car bomb exploded outside Beirut Tuesday, killing at least two and injuring nine others. He was driving in an upscale Christian suburb 10 km north of the capital when an estimated 40 kg of TNT exploded in a nearby parked car. Seven cars were completely destroyed by the blast, which left a scene of devastation that has become all too familiar for Beirut residents. Murr, 43, the Christian deputy prime minister and son-in-law of pro-Syrian President Emile Lahoud, suffered superficial burns and a hand injury. He issued a statement at Serhal hospital aimed at "reassuring the Lebanese". "Thank God I am in good health, and I wish a speedy recovery for all the bodyguards and the wounded. We must support them as the country is going through a very difficult period," he said. *AFP*

Kenya massacre

MARSABIT, Kenya—Police said Wednesday that 55 people, mostly women and children, were killed and hundreds wounded in an attack on remote village in northeast Kenya believed to be the country's worst-ever single episode of inter-clan violence. Residents of the area around Turbi village, some 580 km northeast of the capital, said the toll could be much higher but police in the region said they could confirm only the deaths of 45 victims and 10 raiders. "It was a deadly attack that led to the death of 45 people and ten bandits," said Robert Kipkemoi Kitur, the assistant commissioner of police in Kenya's Eastern Province where the raid took place. *AFP*

Suspect's confession

AMSTERDAM—The trial of Mohammed Bouyeri, the man accused of killing Dutch filmmaker Theo van Gogh, ended with a dramatic courtroom confession Tuesday when he said he acted out of his religious beliefs and would do "exactly the same again". "I take complete responsibility for my actions. I acted purely in the name of

my
ham
sayi
er p
Bou
stre
mar
talit
was
nally
ter

A

HEL
sep
day
will
clai
the
ell, a
ICM
me
dra
agre
Ace
talk
few
stat
Ace
une

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NASA employees gather at the perimeter fence at the base of Pad 39B to take photographs of Space Shuttle Discovery at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., on Tuesday July 12. Discovery is scheduled for launch on Wednesday. AP

' des pite mishap

cal st
ministrator,
said all is-
nd weather
Discovery

rest today.
working a
those were
o we're in
aid, adding
ather gods
"

thing that
t that can
ough busi-
h business
we know
d."
n a shuttle
bia disinte-
on Feb. 1,

will test
o the shut-
debris at
ital proce-
naged heat

the com-
naut Eileen
ver much-
equipment
Space Sta-
construc-
roject—has
remaining
grounded.
asters said
was good,

but they increased the risk of thunderstorms.

"For our launch forecast, we did get a little more pessimistic on this today," weather officer Kathy Winters said as the countdown clock ticked toward the scheduled liftoff.

"There's a 40-percent chance of weather prohibiting launch," she told a briefing.

Any thunderstorm must be at least 37 km from the shuttle to allow a launch. A network of 112 cameras set up to monitor Discovery's surface as it soars will need clear skies to get good images.

The families of the seven astronauts killed in Columbia's fatal break-up offered their support. "We have had 2 1/2 years to reflect daily on the loss of our loved ones as the shuttle Columbia broke apart over Texas on Feb. 1, 2003," the families said in a statement.

"... We have every confidence that the sacrifice of our loved ones and those that preceded them will be realized for the benefit of mankind. Godspeed Discovery."

If Discovery's launch is delayed, Nasa can attempt it twice more before having to break for a few days to refuel the craft's onboard power generators.

The current launch window runs from July 13 through July 31. The next one opens Sept. 9. *Reuters*

IEFS

eligion," 27-year-old Dutch-Moroccan national Mo-
med Bouyeri told the court in Amsterdam, without
ng what his actions were. The prosecution had earli-
esented over 50 statements of witnesses who saw
veri shoot and stab Van Gogh on an Amsterdam
t on Nov. 2, 2004. Prosecutor Frits van Straelen de-
ded a life sentence as he recalled the particular bru-
of the murder in broad daylight, saying Van Gogh
not only shot at 15 times but also stabbed and fi-
his throat was slit in "an almost ritualistic slaugh-
AFP

eh peace talks

SINKI—Indonesian government officials and Aceh
ratists pored over a draft peace treaty during a first
of talks in Helsinki on Tuesday, amid hopes that they
nally agree to end a drawn-out conflict that has
ed nearly 15,000 lives. "They have gone through all
oints in the draft treaty today," said Maria-Elena Cow-
spokesperson for the Crisis Management Initiative
foundation organizing the talks, adding that the "at-
phere was good". "The fact that we're working on a
agreement needs to be seen as a positive sign,"
d Damien Kingsbury, a political advisor to the Free
Movement (GAM). While four previous rounds of
held in the Finnish capital since January have led to
oncrete advances towards ending the conflict, recent
ments from both the Indonesian government and the
separatists have given rise to optimism that a gen-
settlement can be reached. *AFP*

Electrolux

Helping you make
every meal a special one

With Electrolux Kitchen Appliances

What makes Electrolux appliances superior isn't just its 86-year heritage of Scandinavian design and quality workmanship. Rather, a philosophy of creating products with you in mind. Our new kitchen range which includes refrigerators, free standing cookers, hobs, cooker hoods, microwave ovens and dishwashers, brings this philosophy to life by providing efficiency, functionality and superior care for the heart of your home. With Electrolux, you'll make every meal a special experience for you and your family.

Visit the appliance outlet nearest you.

For product information, log on to www.electrolux-kitchen.com

Reebok
ROCKPORT
UMBRO
VANS
NAUTICA FOOTWEAR
K-SWISS

END OF SEASON SALE
July 8 - 31, 2005

up to 40% off!
on selected items

Available at:

All Royal Sporting House stores

Also available at:

All Reebok stores
All Rockport stores
All Vans stores

Toby's Sports
Olympic Village
Sports Central
SM Department Stores
Robinson's Department Stores

and all other authorized dealers nationwide

PER DTI - NCR PERMIT NO. 3979 SERIES OF 2005

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ISSN 0116-2642
INQUIRER
Vol. 20 No. 218
Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net
OPINION
Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 /
528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

Publisher **Isagani Yambot**
Editor in Chief **Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc**
Managing Editor **Jose Ma. D. Nolasco**
Associate Editor **Abelardo S. Ulanday**
Associate Editor for Readership **Rosario A. Garcellano**
News Editor **Artemio T. Engracia Jr.** • *Chief, News Day Desk* **Nilo B. Paurom**
Opinion Editor **Jorge V. Aruta**
National Editor **Pergentino B. Bandayrel Jr.**
City Editor **Gerry Lirio**
Senior Desk Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**
Editorial Consultant **Amando Doronila**
Chief Photographer **Ernie U. Sarmiento**
Art & Design Director **Lynett A. Villariba**

Board Chairman **Marixi R. Prieto**
President **Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **Renato R. Reinoso**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **David O. Valdes**
VP for Advertising **Felipe R. Olarte**
AVP for Circulation **Gloria P. Lardizabal**

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

Impeachment

EDITORIAL

IN A SUDDEN turnaround, the opposition has begun looking more seriously at the possibility of impeaching President Macapagal-Arroyo for electoral fraud and other crimes. After rejecting the idea as a trap and dismissing as a trick the impeachment complaint filed by lawyer Oliver Lozano, opposition members of the House of Representatives assigned San Juan Rep. Ronaldo Zamora to study this method of removing the President. Zamora has sat down with the lawyer of the Marcoses to begin the process of reworking and refining the impeachment complaint.

The opposition's decision to explore the impeachment route came after the defection of seven Cabinet members and three senior officials, as well as the calls for the President's resignation from former President Aquino and some business groups, failed to ignite a people-power uprising over the weekend. While the reluctance of the Catholic bishops to add their collective voice to that campaign dampened the chances that Ms Arroyo would resign anytime soon, the breakaway of a big faction of the Liberal Party from the administration offered a ray of hope for the success of an impeachment motion.

Until then, impeachment looked like an impossibility to an opposition that could not bestir itself to dig up evidence and dig up facts to build a strong case against Ms Arroyo. All that the members of the opposition would do was count heads and wail that they would always be outvoted by the majority. They claimed that impeachment was nothing more than a numbers game, betraying their lack of faith in the institution they serve and in the capacity of their colleagues to rise above self-interest, like the congressmen did during the impeachment of Joseph Estrada. And because they did not want to work so hard to get her out of Malacañang, they wanted the people to do it by marching in the streets. In other words, they wanted the President's head without even dancing for it.

Now after failing to gather the kind of crowds that toppled two previous administrations, opposition lawmakers seem ready to bring their case against the President to where it should have been sent right from the beginning, which is Congress. For this is the body to which the Constitution has given the power to try, impeach and remove an erring president.

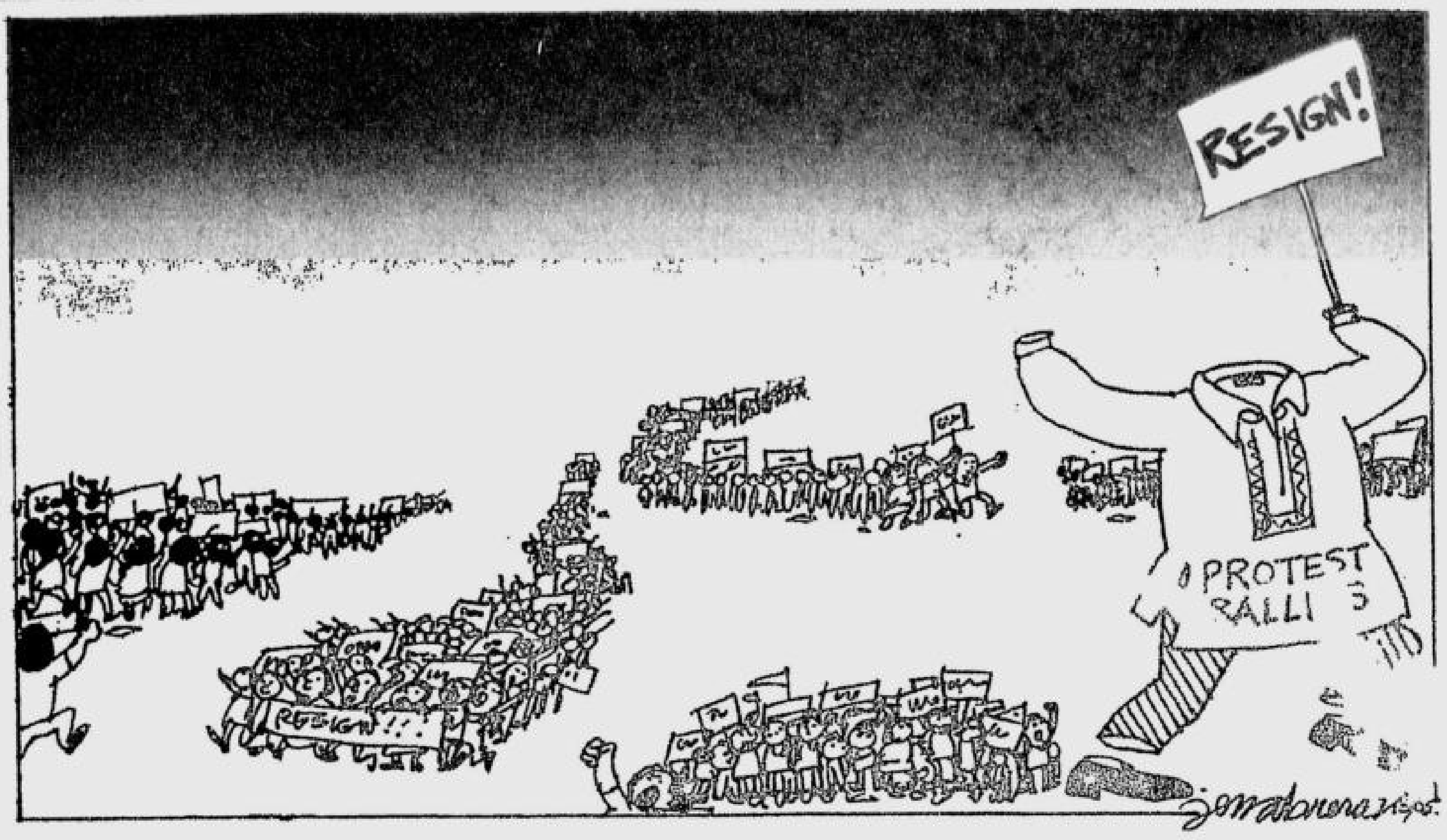
It is a reversal of what happened four and a half years ago when the people finished what Congress had begun. But that came only after the pro-Estrada senators sabotaged the legal process by their extreme partisanship.

Our legislators, from both sides of the political divide, would do well to bear this lesson in mind when they start hearing the impeachment complaint against Ms Arroyo, if it comes to that. This will be their second chance to prove that the process laid down in the Constitution for the removal of a president can work. It is a political process all right, but it should not be a partisan one or it becomes a useless exercise that mocks the fundamental law.

Administration lawmakers, in particular, should not forget that this is the forum the President herself has picked for her defense against charges of electoral fraud. On Friday, she challenged her political foes to "take your grievances to Congress," saying she was "willing to submit" to its judgment so long as due process is followed.

But the burden of making the Constitution and our laws work does not lie with Congress and our lawmakers alone. Once the impeachment case is brought to Congress, the administration should help ensure that the truth comes out and that justice is served in full. And above anything else that means that every agency of government should help in the investigation of the case. The administration can do a lot to make the whole process credible by helping Congress do its job instead of obstructing the course of justice. It can begin by producing the witnesses who can answer the many interesting questions arising from the contents of the taped conversations between former Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano and a variety of personalities, including the President. And the first in line should be Garcillano himself.

Is that asking too much of the administration? Is that like asking the President to convict herself? Keeping Garcillano and company hidden will be no different from keeping the second envelope in the Estrada trial sealed


RESIGN!
PROTEST RALLI S
RESIGN!!

'Numero Tres' as 'Numero Dos'?

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

"VICE presidents are about as useful as a cow's fifth teat," Harry Truman snapped when prodded to seek a post dubbed as a political dead end.

But while relaxing at the Speaker's office, the 34th US vice president, was summoned to proceed "quickly and quietly" to the White House. There, a somber Eleanor Roosevelt told Truman the president had just died. He took his oath that same evening.

We, too, had rancor-free transitions. Vice President Elpidio Quirino assumed office in 1948, after President Manuel Roxas collapsed from a heart attack in Pampanga. In 1957, Ramon Magsaysay's plane smashed into Cebu's Mount Mannungal. Vice President Carlos Garcia, then in Australia, was called back and sworn in.

Now, Vice President Noli de Castro is positioning himself, in case the constitutional "spare-tire" role will be triggered.

Numero Dos tries to look—and sound—as *Numero Uno*. But he heeds 1996 Republican vice-presidential candidate Jack Kemp's counsel: "Keep your mouth shut, your head down, and don't act like you want it." In so doing, he's dumped his laid-back job of asking each morning: "How is the President's health?"

De Castro realizes the embattled President holds government levers. She remains Commander in Chief. She has immunity and retains considerable support in the provinces. A president has 83 million bosses but a vice president must heed 83 million bosses, plus one, to paraphrase Hubert Humphrey.

Numero Dos becomes *Numero Uno*, if and when President Macapagal-Arroyo steps down. Being mortal, it could be by death. Or by voluntary resignation, as demanded by reputable critics like Corazon Aquino or ex-Sen. Jovito Salonga. Or by impeachment.

But the Estrada camp and the Left demand ouster of both Ms Arroyo and De Castro. They'd clamp on a transition junta and scrap the Constitution. "Make no mistake about it," INQUIRER columnist Manuel L. Quezon III writes. "Neither the militant Left, nor the Estrada forces, nor even military adventurers feel bound by (the Constitution)."

So, where does the opposition end and the Maoists begin in the 40,000 that Bagong Alayansang Makabayan pledged to mass yesterday? And why did the one million protestors, pledged last week by former Erap minister Horacio Morales, never appear?

This down-sizing was inevitable, given this Constitution's roots. In the February 1987 poll, 81 percent of voters cast their ballots, and 76 percent voted yes. "A constitution only formalizes the moral consensus that people have already reached." Filipinos won't set that consensus aside on the say so of tainted opposition leaders.

In their analysis, "People go the other way," Urban Poor Associates reveals that people "are tired of being used as pawns in the elite's wars" that don't address their basic needs. "The instincts of our people are right," adds Melba Padilla Maggay from the Institute for Studies in Asian Church and Culture. "They spurn a politics reduced to a contest for power [between] one set of crooks and another."

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines has come down four-square for reforms within the Constitution. That reinforces succession and De Castro is discovering he has more "friends" than he realized.

Favor-scavengers leap-frogged from the Palace. But improbable "new buddies" turned up. "We are open to Noli," Bayan Muna's vice chair Manuel Loste said. And is Sen. Franklin Drilon one of them?

As Senate president, Drilon is *Numero Tres* in the constitutional pecking order. But what if *Numero Dos* and *Uno* were scrubbed? Then, *Numero Tres* would be acting president. He'd oversee special elections within 45 days.

Drilon protests charges he is titillated by this "window of opportunity." Only idealism, he says, led to his and his Liberal Party's abandoning the President, without consulting Manila Mayor Lito Atienza and other major party leaders.

He has denied he sought the vice-presidency and executive secretary post in covert meetings with De Castro. He protests reading betrayal in sitting at meetings where Cabinet members drafted their "quit-now message" to the President.

Methinks Drilon "doth protest too much," too late. But how does Vice President Drilon grab you? "Vice president? It has such a nice ring to it!" Geraldine Ferraro said in agreeing to run as the 1984 Democratic Party's candidate.

"I have no spur / To prick the sides of my intent/ but vaulting ambition," Macbeth admitted. But not Drilon who claims unalloyed idealism was his spur. Indeed, brothels are built with the bricks of altruism.

He trumpeted instead corruption charges, including the "rumor" that the President influenced the Supreme Court's temporary restraining order on the new "VAT" law. Has hunger for power reduced the Senate president to a peddler of rumors?

"No responsible member of the bar ever dared in the past to suggest that anyone, not even the President, can lasso a big bloc of justices to vote the way the President wants it," Sen. Joker Arroyo snapped.

In ruling on a case brought by the opposition, 13 justices (86 percent) voted for a TRO and two (14 percent) voted against. In the Senate, where the President twisted arms, she got 65 percent," Arroyo said. Even under martial law duress, "the most that dictator Ferdinand Marcos got was 77 percent of the vote," Arroyo recalls.

Who said that "the vice-presidency resembles the last cookie on the plate(?) Everybody insists he won't take it. But somebody always does." That's Drilon's hand on the plate. Can those of Lacson, Villar and other *trapos* be far behind?

* * *

E-mail: juan_mercado@pacific.net.ph

Magic

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

WHERE'S the Cory magic?—people are asking. She asked GMA to resign last Friday, but her call seems to have gone unheeded. Unlike in the past when her voice took on the aspect of God's truth ringing out of the heavens, demanding to be obeyed. So is the Cory magic gone?

Well, to answer that, you have to answer how the magic got to be there in the first place.

Cory is not the most charismatic person in the world, certainly not when she first took on a public life. Her current heroic standing derives not from personal magnetism but from the mystique she has developed over the years from leading crusades against tyrants. If I recall right, the Marcos people spoke of her as derisively then as the GMA people speak of Susan Roces now. "*Walang alam*," a plain housewife by her own admission (the people who used the modifier "plain," of course, having no understanding of what it takes to be a housewife), who had had nothing to do with politics until she took up the cudgels for her husband. Indeed, as far as it went, she had less by way of public exposure than Roces. Roces has had a public life; however, it's been in entertainment rather than politics—which in this country is barely distinguishable.

Cory was pure of heart when she fought Marcos. She was never tainted by the Marcos regime, she had opposed it from the start. Her striving might have sprung from a personal motive, to seek justice for her husband, but that striving had encompassed the nation's own. An empathetic identification encapsulated in the phrase, "*Hindi ka nagiisa!*" Ninoy's death had been the death of us all, Cory's fight for justice was the resurrection of us all.

My image of the Cory magic remains that of one early evening in January 1986 when she delivered a speech during the height of the "snap elections." Her speech was broadcast on Radio Veritas, and you could hear her voice booming across the length of Quezon Avenue from the radio sets that were collectively tuned to that station. Cory spoke in a monotone, probably to her voice coach's despair. But no matter, it was the voice of Truth, and it spoke louder and far more eloquently than Marcos', notwithstanding Marcos' bombast which was accompanied by karate chops in the air and by Vangelis' heroic "Chariots of Fire" theme heaving in the background. Even the prostitutes that plied the avenue froze where they stood.

That's what's not there today. What makes Cory's voice less than thunderous today is that she is tainted with Gloria. She—and Jaime Cardinal Sin—gave GMA life and, having done so, saw nothing wrong with GMA even when GMA was wreaking the gravest iniquities. Cory said nothing when GMA decided to run again after vowing on the grave of Jose Rizal she would not because she was the source of this country's divisiveness. Cory said nothing when GMA unleashed gold, goons and guns to seek a second term, the way Marcos did in 1969, if in the reverse order of the three G's. Cory said nothing when the tape of GMA's conversation with Garci came out. When Cory did come out to speak, it was to warn those who have had enough of GMA not to resort to unconstitutional means, as though lying, cheating and stealing were constitutional. When she did come out to speak, it was to say she was too old to lead another People Power.

Can you blame the people if they at least believed the last?

There had been occasions in the past when Cory—as indeed Cardinal Sin—tried to rally the country to their cause and failed. Cory did so in 1991 when she sought to stop the Senate from rejecting the US Bases Treaty, summoning the crowd to gather at the Luneta to fight history. No one went, except Richard Gordon, who monumentally ironically would later reap the fruits of what others had planted and go on to head the SBMA. Sin tried to do the same thing, summoning the crowd to gather at the Luneta to protest then health secretary Juan Flavier's—Mr. Condom's—espousal of contraceptives. No one came either, except his sidekick, the anomalously first-named Bishop Socrates Villegas.

Cory has the right cause this time, but the wrong timing. She has the pure voice at last, but the impure record at length. Had she come out sooner when her protégé had turned into the very thing she fought at Edsa I and II—not least by bringing back cheating and *jueteng*, the two things she decried in Edsa I and II—hers would have been the voice of heaven itself. As it is today, she has fallen into the role not unlike the one Fidel Ramos and Juan Ponce Enrile played in Edsa I. Ramos and Enrile had turned against Marcos, but for reasons the public could never be sure of. They had seen the rot that was the Marcos regime, but not after having wallowed in it and drawn sustenance from it.

The people's attitude toward them they soon made clear when they chose Cory instead of either one of them to lead the country. The gathering at Club Filipino had no choice but to make Cory the head of the government that replaced Marcos'—not Enrile though he desperately craved it—though Cory herself had been in Cebu when Edsa I took place. She was the symbolic leader of Edsa, she was the moral leader of Edsa. Not so today. She is the Enrile or Ramos of today.

Truth is the most magical thing there is. It has a way, as Gregoria de Jesus put it when her own husband, Andres Bonifacio, was murdered by Emilio Aguinaldo's henchmen, of coming out like the bodies of the drowned from the depths of the sea. Not so half-truth. Half-truth is the most frustrating thing there is. It has a way of hiding things even as it reveals them, and you are never sure if it hides the important things even as it reveals the superficial ones.

Truth was the magic of Cory then. Half-truth is the scourge of Cory now.

LGU phenomenon

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

THE CROWDS that were ballyhooed for days for yesterday's opposition rally in Makati failed to materialize in the half a million or one million promised. Commentators throughout the day brought down the target assembly size to 50,000, which is probably more like the actual figure. There were obvious attempts to jack up the crowds by floating false rumors. (e.g. Movie talent manager Lolit Solis was heard over dzRH the other day, announcing that former President Cory Aquino would be joining Susan Roces on stage.) That disclosure by Solis sent Ms Aquino's fans from the pre-Edsa I days into paroxysms of despair, given her elevated status; until civic leader Evelyn Kilayko thought of calling Rapa Lopa, Ms Aquino's nephew and assistant, who denied the Solis float outright. The float belongs strictly to the opposition's dirty tricks department. Which should put the citizenry on guard of many disinformation and destabilization rumors.)

* * *

Yesterday's rally was designed to reprise the old rallies we carried out against the dictatorship in 1983-86, complete with all the banners and confetti raining from some buildings. But it was evident that the mammoth crowds promised did not materialize. My feeling is that while President Macapagal-Arroyo does not enjoy a lot of popularity in Metro Manila, as indicated by the surveys, the majority of the people do not want street protests as they realize the enormous damage such rallies can cause on our economy and stability. The people obviously want to pursue the truth of the accusations against GMA through the constitutionally mandated process, which is impeachment. This is the popular position that has now gelled across the land: support the constitutional process, which will fully ventilate the truth.

* * *

I appeared as a panelist the other evening at a National Broadcasting Network (NBN) forum hosted by Secretary Cerge Remonde, chief of government media. The forum also had as guests four municipal mayors. They were Mayors Gerry Espina of Naval, Biliran, Jerry Pelayo of Candaba, Pampanga, Ramon Guico of Binalonan who is also the president of the League of Municipalities, and Gerardo V. Calderon of Angono, Rizal. We were joined by senior Lakas Rep. Exequiel Javier of Antique. I must confess that the forum was arranged in response to the observation I had earlier made to Remonde. I pointed out to him that the local government units, together with the political parties allied with GMA, now constitute the major pillar of support for her. Ranged against them are elements from the political opposition, some members of civil society, business and the academe. I have been watching this recent development, which I term the "LGU phenomenon," with fascination: how the LGUs have now come out and insist on being heard in the decision to judge the President's fate, not just civil society and its allies. I suggested to Remonde that we pursue this topic with the governors next time, to include such articulate governors as Antique's Sally Perez, Cebu's Gwen Garcia, Southern Leyte's Rosette Yñiguez-Lerias and Bulacan's Josie de la Cruz.

* * *

The mayors on the NBN panel stressed that one reason for the LGUs' out-and-out support for GMA is that she treated them very well. They pointed out that she returned to them all their shares from the internal revenue allotment (IRA) that were withheld by previous administrations. Representative Javier knows about this only too well, for Congress passed the Local Government Code that enshrined this IRA. Moreover, claimed the local execs, GMA has given them a lot of support, including her physical presence during calamities as well as a lot of projects at the grass roots. Mayor Calderon stressed that the phenomenon we are witnessing is due simply to the slow ripening of the LGUs in the past 14 years that the Code has been in place. I said in that forum that the local execs should come out of their localities and be more visible over national media, if only to let us know of their sentiments. For too long, they have been too parochial. One good thing this crisis has done is to produce more local stars.

* * *

The hearings on the *jueteng* scandals in the Senate have truly deteriorated over the many weeks that they have dragged, and it's truly time that the Senate bring them to a close. One reason is that the Senate has come to look like a marketplace during those hearings, and this came to the fore the other day when a lawyer for a witness shouted and screamed at Sen. Dick Gordon who was trying to establish the integrity of the witness. Such behavior from a witness' lawyer couldn't have been imagined in the glory days of the Senate, when the senators were held in high esteem. It is the Senate that has suffered so much in terms of public image and prestige.

Gordon has invoked the need to implement what he termed the "Salonga rules" after the outburst of the lawyer, and it's worth recalling these rules. Former Senate President Jovito Salonga had earlier criticized the conduct of the Senate hearings. Witnesses, he said, have been allowed to just impugn the reputation of anyone without the Senate checking out their accusations first in some sort of a filtering process under an atmosphere of confidentiality. He recalled that during his time in Congress, when his committee was investigating the Stonehill scandal which implicated many big politicians, including President Diosdado Macapagal, the witnesses' testimonies were first heard by the Senate committee's staff, which was headed by a reputable lawyer. Only when the committee deemed the accusations reliable and corroborated by evidence were the witnesses allowed to appear in public. But those were the days when civility was the rule.

'To be poor and obscure'

HUMAN FACE

Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

TO BE poor and obscure. This is the antithesis of being wealthy and famous. Nothing wrong with being wealthy and famous per se because so much good could also be achieved by being so. But something goes wrong when going there and remaining there become an all-consuming desire that defines a person' s "VMG" (vision-mission goals, FYI).

But what value, you ask, does being poor and obscure has?

Read Karl Gaspar's "To be Poor and Obscure: The Spiritual Sojourn of a Mindanawon." Karl is not exactly poor if the national poverty line is to be used. And he is not unknown to development workers, social scientists and church workers immersed among the truly poor and obscure.

May I say early on that the book is not about darkness and despair. It is, in fact, a smiling book. The cover already tells you that. I judge a book also by its cover, you know.

When you read "To be Poor and Obscure" you enter the world not just of Karl but also of the people for whom he has committed his life. Before Karl decided to become a Redemptorist Brother in 1987 (when he was 40), he was already a noted a social scientist and veteran church development worker. Karl was detained for two years during the martial law years, an experience that added color to his worldview.

Karl has several books to his name but "To be Poor and Obscure" would probably be the most confessional but in a very relaxed, soothing and loving way. It is a long way from his 1985 "How Long?: Prison Reflections."

But the book is not of the chicken-soup variety. Karl offers the analytic views of a social scientist (he has sociology, economics and Philippine studies degrees) and more importantly, the stirrings of his heart. Here is one love affair.

As Fr. Jose Mario C. Francisco, S.J. wrote in the foreword: "As one walks through these confessional essays, one encounters Karl and his world where the personal, political and spiritual are interwoven into an intricate Lumad design. Here he reveals himself as a true anthropologist, a radical lover of humankind in the particular persons and communities he lives and works with in his homeland Mindanao."

Yes, a lumad flavor, if you will. The indigenous communities (lumad) provide contrast and balance to the weight of Western-style Christianity and Jesuit education that people like Karl carry around. A first-generation Mindanawon (Karl's parents settled in Mindanano in the 1940s), he was privy to the world of both the lowland settlers and the lumad.

But why keep on describing Karl and his book when they could very well speak directly to us?

From the essay "To Die a Thousand Deaths":

"We, the settlers in Mindanao are a lot poorer than the Lumad and Moro...The stories about their ancestors remain intact in their memories...No wonder we are a fragmented people, a lost tribe floating aimlessly, unable to get our act together. No wonder we have turned against... each other. Because we have not been able to ground ourselves in the affectionate memory of having the same ancestors, we are lost.

"My appreciation of ancestors actually came from two fronts: first was my anthropological fascination with epics and genealogies; and second, my interest in Scriptures which are filled with story after story of Jesus' ancestors. In fact, I also relate to Jesus as if He were my ancestor...

"To compensate in some small way, I have worked to see to it that the tradition lives on. Working among Lumad, for example, I tell them how lucky they are to be bonded to their ancestors and exhort them to hold on to this aspect of their lives.

"In Kulaman, I keep on telling government officials that names of villages should not be changed because many of these names—Midtungok, Tudȯg, Baltakan, Nati, Midfanga, Malegdeg, Blangas, Mantil—were of actual people who inhabited this land long before settlers came over."

From "To Hold God's Face in One's Hands": "I remember how touched I was by their use of metaphors to articulate deep meanings. I was quite moved by the innocent simplicity in how they described God's efficacious love for them. There were moments when I realized I was poorer in terms of having such depth of faith in God's providence.

"However, I was an angry young man then and in a bit of a hurry to see results in terms of our organizing work. I had little time to be still. I couldn't bring integration to all the phenomena erupting everywhere; I was unable to view reality holistically. I couldn't piece together the fragments of lived experiences...

"Back in the grassroots as a Redemptorist Brother, I found myself more able to absorb the meanings of signs and symbols that I was confronted with. The sustained immersion at the grassroots level provided adequate time for me to listen to people's dreams and hopes. Encountering rural families and communities in prayer and liturgical celebrations—in their homes, under the canopy of trees, by the side of a river, in thatched-roof chapels—provided the venue for faith-life sharing where God's presence became more palpable."

Karl's lead essay explains what "To be Poor and Obscure" is all about. "Located in its hidden landscape, you are nobody. You won't be projected in media; no one out there is bombarded with images of your noble commitments. You have disappeared into this setting that allows you to blend into a nondescript space that exists only in the people's and your own consciousness...

"What am I doing here? Crossing a flooded river or getting lost in the forest also has led me to tell myself: I don't have to be here..."

The book tells you why Karl, and other people like him, have chosen to be there.

(The book is available at the Center for Spirituality-Manila, 7279772, 7213391.)

* * *

Send comments to cerespd@info.com.ph

Radical prudence

THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III

THE DAY before the bishops issued their statement, I suggested that prudence should be foremost in their minds.

The word "prudence" has a Catholic interpretation, one worth bearing in mind. Bishop Leonardo Legaspi, in a press conference, explained that indeed, as I'd said, prudence was an important consideration of the hierarchy when it deliberated on the wording of their statement.

The Catholic Encyclopedia defines prudence (which is one of the four cardinal virtues) as "an intellectual habit enabling us to see in any given juncture of human affairs what is virtuous and what is not, and how to come at the one and avoid the other... Its function is to point out which course of action is to be taken in any round of concrete circumstances. It indicates which, here and now, is the golden mean wherein the essence of all virtue lies. It has nothing to do with directly willing the good it discerns..."

How would a person, such as a bishop, or group of bishops, exercise prudence? The Catholic Encyclopedia explains: "According to St. Thomas, [the function of a moral agent is] to do three things: to take counsel, i.e., to cast about for the means suited in the particular case under consideration to reach the end of any one moral virtue; to judge soundly the fitness of the means suggested; and, finally, to command their employment. If these are to be done well, they necessarily exclude remissness and lack of concern; they demand the use of such diligence and care that the resultant act can be described as prudent, in spite of whatever speculative error may have been at the bottom of the process. Readiness in finding out and ability in adapting means to an end does not always imply prudence. If the end happens to be a vicious one, a certain adroitness or sagacity may be exhibited in its pursuit. This, however, according to St. Thomas, will only deserve to be called false prudence and is identical with that referred to in Rom., viii, 6, 'the wisdom of the flesh is death'."

The bishops did all three: they took counsel from each other and from people they called in; and having decided the case of the President was one primarily of trust, cast about for the means to determine why that trust was lost; and furthermore, what the country as a whole should do about it. There were bishops, I'm sure, who argued that to make a call for impeachment or investigation would be a demonstration of "false prudence," as quoted above. But apparently they were a minority.

Still, it is wrong to assume that the bishops came out with a cowardly statement. Their statement was politically, even emotionally, unsatisfying to the President's critics, but it laid down a dangerous trap for the administration. The CBCP, by issuing a highly nuanced statement (you have to read it closely, and carefully, more than once to really understand everything it contains) has given the President the noose by which to hang herself. Why do I say this?

The bishops ignored demands to make a particular political call; but in defining the issue as a moral one, they weakened the political strategies employed so far by the President, including her unequivocal assertion of innocence. The bishops, by scrutinizing the issue, have not let the President off the hook; their call for her to reflect on her situation—that is, to inquire into herself if she can continue to govern or not—implies that her capacity to lead may, indeed, no longer exist. They have not absolved her. They haven't judged her guilty either; but they have determined there is (what in criminal parlance would be called) "probable cause" for a continued investigation. What is probable cause? Definitions vary. One is, "where known facts and circumstances, of a reasonably trustworthy nature, are sufficient to justify a man of reasonable caution or prudence in the belief that a crime has been or is being committed."

Even if you don't think the bishops suspect that the President needs to be investigated for potentially criminal actions, it can still be argued—as yesterday's editorial in this paper brilliantly put it—that they have presented a "demand for a bill of particulars," or a chance for both accusers and accused to present their sides in a civil case. And as the two sides do that, a consensus could be arrived at, as I have called for.

The bishops certainly believe that the issue deserves to be a national one, and that no one should assume this is a "Metro Manila concern only," as some argue. In calling for an active period of widespread consultations within the ambit of the Church—during which it can be assumed the moral principles enumerated in their statement will be explained (and reinforced) in parishes and schools throughout the country—the bishops are both providing a venue for the discussions and are arming Catholics with the means to determine the President's continued fitness, or lack of fitness, for office. This also answers the call of many people for an effort to separate the true issues from the political noise. This is harmful to the President (and I suspect, the opposition).

This means the crisis will be prolonged. The President hasn't been handed a free ride; this means the campaign to convince the public as to each sector's particular stand will heat up. However, in the coming weeks, even months, I believe that, hopefully, the logical conclusion of the process outlined by the bishops will begin to dawn on the people. That conclusion is that the system is so defective, that the time has come for a more radical redefinition of our institutions. That redefinition is not contained in former President Ramos' proposed Charter change.

* * *

Comments welcome at www.quezon.ph/blog

Letter to the skeptics

I HAVE heard so much and heard so little. I am confused and agitated. I am still trying to find my niche in this world, and I am going through a quarter-life crisis. There are too many personal matters I have to attend to, but I cannot keep my silence during these confusing times. Let me set aside all the personal matters, and let me once again raise my voice a bit. Someone might be listening. I hope you skeptics are there to listen.

YOUNG BLOOD

Hannah Eloisse Go

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

A year ago, when I was working with a call center, I still had the energy and found the time to help count your ballots. I had joined the first batch of volunteers for the Overseas Absentee Voting (OAV). Weeks before the elections, I happened to come across a Namfrel booth on the UP campus. With my friend Hexel, I decided to sign up for volunteer work after some moments of hesitation to consider our current commitments. We believed we were doing a service to the nation.

My already strained voice was there on the other line to receive your calls regarding the results. My already tired hands were there to count your ballots. Yes, I was there counting the votes of our so-called *"bagong bayani,"* whose remittances are propping up our ailing economy afloat. I read e-mail from all over the world that showed the choices of our countrymen overseas, and I had the privilege of handling the 6th copy of the election returns from Hong Kong.

I was there to witness and be a part of history. I was there because I still believed in the electoral process, dear skeptics. I believed in the government, despite all its failures and mistakes.

You may have a reason to laugh, especially given our current state of affairs where the integrity of the previous elections is being questioned and we hear loud political bickering over those controversial tapes. Though I feel disheartened by the news and the protests, I still hope things will turn out right for everyone.

I saw the votes for Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, and I hope I am not mistaken in thinking that it was really the people who elected her. I am hoping that she will do better. I could be mocked for still believing in the status quo, but if I don't care about it, how can we move forward and change and achieve our goals? The status quo is the foundation on which our bricks of change have to be laid. I believe changes are necessary to improve the lot of our people. And those changes will not come without pain, sacrifice and suffering. But I sincerely hope that no blood will be shed, mindlessly or otherwise, so that these changes will happen. I do not encourage drastic changes. Too many people have already paid the price, and not a few proved in vain.

The youth are not afraid of failure, of another Edsa revolution or of a looming economic collapse. No matter what happens, we will still be around to pick up ourselves and the nation, ready to build whatever remains. We will build the world according to our design and in absolute perfection as dictated by by our passion. We have the talent, the passion and the drive, despite the skepticism of many, to build our inheritance. What we are afraid of is that we may just fade away into history and be forgotten. We are afraid of passing through this earth without making our mark.

We now understand that there is no use bickering and fighting over who is to blame for irreparable damages and errors, like what our elders constantly do, whether they be in politics or any other profession. The past can never be altered, and the future is what we should prepare for. We shall learn from the mistakes of others and derive wisdom from their lessons.

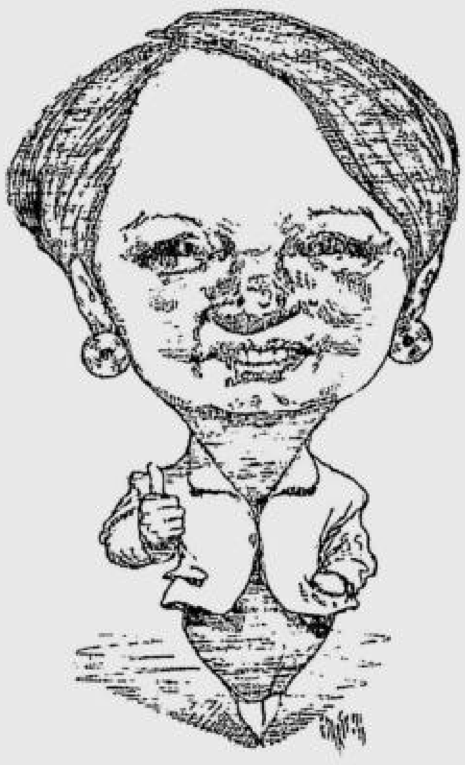
The generations before us criticize us for lacking commitment and drive. They say we will never equal or even understand their passion which fired their activism, allowed them to reach out to the masses and made the first Edsa Revolution a success. We are burdened by their expectations and, at the same time, by their unspeakable failures which we will inherit.

But we of our generation have our common ideals and goals. Beneath our fascination with technology is our intense desire to build a better world. We will not let our passions die. We will pick up our deplorable inheritance and rebuild it. We yearn for our chance and when we get it, we will give it our best.

I still cannot decide if I have taken the right career, if I am fulfilling my filial obligations, if I have what it takes to climb the ladder of success, if I will tell that friend of mine that I am in love with him since forever, if I am not missing something in this life. Although I find myself reciting the "Desiderata" more often lately, I will still care about my country. Dear skeptics, I feel confused, but please do not kill my enthusiasm.

Hannah Eloisse Go, 23, has a bachelor's degree in art studies from the University of the Philippines Diliman and works as a marketing officer for a bookstore chain.

IN THE NEWS



President Macapagal-Arroyo

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

A solution is not that simple

THE CRISIS is not as simple as it seems. In an act of frustration, temporary solutions become very attractive. Equally tempting is an approach that amputates. It is in fact a cancer, a disease for which a cure is yet to be discovered.

Our nation faces not only a political challenge but very deep social and economic challenges. Some may argue that the political side is the main cause. In my opinion, the three aspects are all interconnected. Our culture has fully embraced and tolerated the current political structure. Poverty has reduced the country into opportunism and short-sightedness.

In truth, no one can really cast the first stone for we are all responsible for the system that we have created. Should everyone in office who communicated with election officials resign? Is gambling really the work of just an individual, or does it only flourish with the general consent of society? Is this a case in which if the head is removed, the monster will die, or will it lead to a new offspring?

We have been on this road several times. Perhaps, we have always taken the easy path. Maybe, we have simply chosen the quick option. Surely, we have always thought that the problem is theirs and we are not part of the crisis. We may be praying for God's will to be done, but in that same prayer, do we not look at ourselves and see our trespasses? Do we not acknowledge our own weaknesses and our propensity to do what is wrong?

The President is a reflection of our society. There are indeed so many problems that we are facing, yet we do not have the time or attention to strike at these challenges at their core. Some of us are preoccupied with our greed for power. Most of us do not have the time to worry about tomorrow for we are still wondering if we will have food on our table today. We all fail to see that the good of the country will translate to something that is good for us, so we simply resign ourselves to a way of thinking that always places ourselves and our interests ahead of everyone else's. Political, social and economic—we have serious problems in all of these.

The President's resignation could only become a worthwhile sacrifice if with this action, our eyes would begin to see who we really are and the problems we are all facing. It would be another exercise in futility if, at the end of the day, we would still think that the problem lies outside ourselves.

—DR. ANGEL C. DE DIOS,
associate professor and director
of Undergraduate Studies,
Department of Chemistry,
Georgetown University,
37th and O Sts., NW,
Washington, D.C. 20057

Scandal puts Muslims in bad light

THE SCANDAL whipped up by the taped conversations allegedly between President Macapagal-Arroyo, the candidate, and Virgilio Garcillano, the election commissioner, has not only rocked the nation; it has also put in a bad light the Muslim people.

The tirade may be directed toward the President, but it also casts doubt on the integrity of the Muslim electorate, with innuendos that its vote can be bought. The fact is that Ms Arroyo lost in not a few towns and cities in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

There is no denying that there was a "wholesale delivery of votes" in many parts of the autonomous region. But this was an "enterprise" that was done not only in Muslim Mindanao. Elsewhere in the Philippines, we know of "captive votes." It hurts to admit, but this shame in our electoral system exists.

'The Moro Islamic Liberation Front has issued a statement that the peace negotiation with the Arroyo administration will not be derailed by the tape and *jueteng* scandal. This merely indicates what the MILF knows about suffrage in this country. This also indicates that the MILF knows it is closer to achieving peace with the Arroyo administration despite the pocket violations of the ceasefire agreement.

Dragging the autonomous region in the tape scandal touches on the sensitivities of our Muslim brothers, but this is not reason enough to derail the peace talk which looks more assuring under the Arroyo administration than under the past administrations. We hope that this promising outlook for peace will be sustained and will not be doused by the destabilization moves.

—RINA DE JESUS,
mewenceslao@yahoo.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER LETTERS

Why Rome fell

WHEN Edward Gibbon completed his masterpiece of literature and history, "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," he said, "I have described the triumph of barbarism and religion." He didn't say anything about vices as the cause of the fall of the empire. The religion he was referring to was, of course, Christianity. So I cannot agree with Col. Julian Malonso (PDI, 6/6/05) that vices toppled the empire. Of course, there were vices in the ancient world but probably not as prevalent as they are in the Philippines today.

It is a rather odd coincidence that the colonel's first name, Julian, was the name of a 4th-century Roman emperor who tried to restore Paganism in the empire. Unfortunately, he was killed while leading his troops in battle in Persia, after a reign of only three years. He was a brilliant and very young commander, and he fought at the head of his army which cherished him, Gibbon tells us.

In that era, Christianity was taking over the empire and various Christian sects were fighting each other for supremacy. Romans were losing their martial spirit and military skills; instead they hurled anathemas at each other while the barbarians were taking over Europe, North Africa and Byzantium.

All this is described with skill and gusto and great scholarship in the seven hefty volumes of Gibbon's "Decline and Fall."

—ROBERT HANAN,
robhanan@robhanan.com

Philippine Navy Day: a farce

THE PHILIPPINE Navy celebrated its 107th founding anniversary last May 20 at the Department of National Defense headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City with Defense Secretary Avelino J. Cruz as guest of honor and speaker. The celebration was a farce.

May 20 marks the turnover of the "Pinnace," an abandoned Spanish small ferry boat, from Commodore George Dewey to Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo after the naval battle off Manila Bay. The turnover was a deception characteristic of the double-crossing Americans, who later ordered the seizure of Philippine vessels (including the Pinnace) in furtherance of the United States' grand design to occupy and colonize the Philippines.

The issue of commemorating the Philippine Navy founding on another date was referred in the past to the National Historical Institute. The NHI recommended June 23, 1898, the day Aguinaldo issued the decree creating four departments including the Navy. A copy of the NHI comment was furnished the flag officer in command.

In spite of this, Vice Adm. Ernesto de Leon chose to celebrate the Navy's foundation on May 20. The insistence to commemorate that important event on that day is un-Filipino and indicative of a colonial mind and can be classified as an actuation suggestive of a "foreign agent." The government should investigate De Leon to check on his loyalty to the Republic of the Philippines.

—CAPT. ARSENIO
A. GUINTO, PN (ret.),
chair, Cavite City
Historical Society,
360 A. Del Rosario St.,
Caridad, Cavite City 4100

Fare discounts unfair to drivers

LIFTING the student fare discount on Saturdays, Sundays and summer is a good idea. This is just giving justice to the drivers who for years have been helping commuters, young and old, every day.

An earning of P150 to P200 a day is not commensurate to the efforts and risks drivers go through as they ply their trade. And that amount is not even enough to provide for the needs of the family in the face of the increasing prices of prime commodities, house rentals and tuition fees. Nowadays, most of what they earn goes to fuel and "boundary," the amount they must pay the owner of the vehicle each time they use the vehicle. Only a very little amount remains with the drivers. At times, nothing is left at all for them.

The life of a pensioner (senior citizen) is much better than that of a driver. Yet, pensioners enjoy the benefit of a fare discount from poor drivers.

How many Filipinos ever thought that the discounts given to students and senior citizens are not even subsidized by the government, or by the operator, or by the proponent of the fare discount? It is the poor drivers who fully assume the cost of the discounts.

Likewise, most operators are on the dot in increasing the jeepney/taxi boundary once the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board approves a fare increase.

A fare hike in favor of our society's poor is nothing if oil prices are not regulated.

—GILDA M. DACILLO,
Salugan, Camalig, Albay

Ang hamon sa mga pangulo, mula Edsa Uno:
LAYAS SA PALASYO!
plus
Exclusive: Mga apo ng Sultan ng Sulu mula sa China
Ngayong Huwebes, alas 10 n.g. sa ABC
INQ TV

INQBOX
Question of the Week
Amidst the confusion and controversies, what are your hopes and dreams for our country and people?
Win this *Inquirer shirt
Senders of d best 20 texts as publishd in Tuesday's INQBOX wiL each receiv an *Inquirer ShirtI Ü
[illegible] inquirer box
name/age/city/message
[illegible]
(Maximum of 160 characters)
*Metro Manila winners can call Jane at 897.8808.
Provincial winners can text:
inquirer ad name/age/city/mailing address
to 2207 or 283 as their prizes will be mailed to them
Inquirer
menu

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

INQUIRER Southern Luzon

Editor **Jun Bandayrel**
Bureau Chief **Floreño G. Solmirano**

Slaughter of soft-shelled turtles stops

By Gil Francis G. Arevalo
Guinobatan, Albay

THE SOFT-SHELLED turtles that menfolk in Barangay Minto in Guinobatan, Albay love to partake of during drinking sprees are now spared the trip to the butchers.

Since 2003, when a story about the slaughter of the creatures was published in the INQUIRER, local and national government agencies have joined hands to stop uncaring people from catching, selling and killing of the turtles, according to barangay chair Rudel Ocmer.

"At last, we have already stopped these culprits, for they know that we're monitoring them and we're guarding the San Francisco River well," Ocmer said. The soft-shelled turtles thrive in the river.

The turtles' population has already doubled as a result of combined conservation efforts of the Protected Area, Wildlife and Coastal Zone Management Service of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (PAWCZMS-DENR), the municipal council of Guinobatan, and the barangay council.

Medicinal

A soft-shelled turtle used to be sold for P500 apiece. Hunters believed it was an aphrodisiac source, but residents said some people bought them to serve as pets.

Others valued them not only as food but also for medicinal purposes. The soft-shelled turtle meat is said to treat fever, convulsion and other ailments.

Ocmer said that since villagers had already stopped the hunting, selling and killing of the turtles, it was now time to declare the barangay a sanctuary of the creatures in Albay.

Myrna Bailon, PAWCZMS chief, agreed, saying the reptiles have found a conducive habitat in the San Francisco River, which reaches Bato town in Camarines Sur. The turtles' presence in Minto was discovered in 1997.

"More than that, ... it is only in this barangay, as far as our record and monitoring is concerned, that thousands of soft-shelled turtles dwell harmoniously with the environment, thereby making this place their sanctuary," Bailon said.

Ocmer said many students, researchers and tourists had frequented their place just to see the turtles.

Most of them were surprised, as they could not help comparing the soft-shelled turtle to the snake turtle because of its long, elongated neck, he said. Local residents had mistaken it for a snake turtle.

"Some come here to try to please and convince us to sell at least one turtle to them [for] souvenir and eventually, their pet," he said.

Others believed that it can cure chronic malaria, dysentery, uterine bleeding, weakness during convalescence, and abnormal absence of menstruation, he said.

Some of those who have taken the turtles for pets have been strongly advised to return them to the river.

SOFT-SHELLED turtle found in Barangay Minto in Guinobatan, Albay. FILE PHOTO

Leonora Orpiada, 58, one of those who used to own turtles, said that she had found it hard to accommodate visitors who wanted to see her two 15-kilo soft-shelled turtles. After two years, her two pets died.

Protection

She said she was now supportive of the local council's plan to protect the turtles.

To further ensure the safety of the animals, the barangay council, in coordination with the municipal tourism office, plans to put up a fence or wall in certain portions of the San Francisco River to provide exclusive areas for the turtles and prevent fish from disturbing them, Ocmer said.

Confining the turtles will give authorities the chance to monitor them more closely, he said.

"Because they're reproducing vigorously, soon livestock animals like chicken and plants within the area will be pestered by these turtles," Ocmer said.

Soft-shelled turtles also feed on frogs, crustaceans, worms and various kinds of insects.

Bailon, however, voiced out her concerns. Putting up a fence just to confine the turtles may also endanger them after one year, she said.

The turtles, she said, should live in their natural habitat. Limiting their movements would abet overpopulation, which is not good for sustainable utilization, she said.

"It's up to the soft-shelled turtles to look for another place once they cannot find other sources of food. We will be avoiding competition among them. If there's no fence, then the other turtles could look for another place to find food."

IN THE KNOW

Soft-shelled turtles

Scientifically named *Pelodiscus sinensis*, the soft-shelled turtle belongs to the family of the Chinese turtle and weighs 15 to 20 kilos.

It has a smooth, soft and round carapace with a texture similar to a pancake. Its back is olive, dark green or gray and its underside, white or pink. It has webbed feet, a long neck like a snake, and elongated snout with nostrils at the tip.

It moves swiftly and when threatened, becomes aggressive and bites viciously.

It is found mostly in inland water bodies, such as dams, swamps, ponds and creeks that have soft sand or muddy bottoms where they often lie buried.

STATEMENT OF DE LA SALLE ALUMNI

We the undersigned alumni of the De La Salle School System disagree with the call of the De La Salle Brothers for the resignation of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. In this volatile state of our nation, with the country facing grave problems brought about principally by the record oil prices in the nation in the world market, the President's resignation will only plunge our country in a state of uncertainty. With the economy deterioration our people, who are already suffering from high prices, will feel the brunt of the negative effects of an uncertain economy. Economic recovery can only be achieved in an atmosphere of stability and predictability. For the greater good of our country, we therefore urge the President to insitute drastic reforms in her governance so that the country can surmount the challenges and problems facing the nation.

HS Class 1957
SALVADOR S. LAGRA
HS Class 58
EDUARDO M. ALUNAN
HS 1970
Ricardo P. Gibbons Jr
ALBERTO JOSI
DAVID LIM
VINCE XAVIER
JOSE COSCOLLUELA
CHICHIE E. STRUG
LUIS BELTRAN
Paul Agnes
M. SOCORRO L. NOBLEJAS

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) *Assistant Editor* **Tony Bergonia**

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Siege of Malacañang in Cebu stopped

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—An otherwise peaceful holding of a series of protest actions in Cebu was marred yesterday when a melee broke out between militant protesters and government troops guarding the Malacañang sa Sugbo along the port area here.

Two firemen and a soldier were injured after being hit by stones lobbed by protesters during the chaotic anti-Arroyo rally near the vicinity of the Malacañang sa Sugbo located at the Aduana Port in Cebu City at past 2 p.m.

Aside from the stone-throwing incident, SWAT policemen used tear gas while the firemen used water cannons to stop members of the militant groups Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) and Bangon Pilipinas who wanted to forcibly enter the gate of the Malacañang sa Sugbo, the President's official residence and office in the South.

The militant groups had already broken through the barricade made out of steel railings and barbed wires at corner MC Briones and MJ Cuenco Avenue when firemen used their water cannons to block them.

Supt. Mariano Natuel, chief of the Security Service Group, said the protesters hit back by throwing stones at the soldiers and policemen positioned behind the barricade.

Natuel said the SWAT men also used tear gas when the protesters insisted in going inside the presidential building.

Fire Officer 2 Ramon Molina was hit in the forehead while another fireman, FO2 Joel Codoy was injured in the mouth. An Air Force personnel identified only as G. Olmido was hit in the body.

Paul Rodriguez, Bayan Central Visayas president, however claimed that the stones did not come from them but from the camp of the policemen.

He said his men just threw back the stones at the policemen.

In fact, he said, some of their members were also slightly injured after they were hit by the stones.

He strongly condemned the policemen for using tear gas, saying that the policemen used the style of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos just to stop them in expressing their sentiments against the President.

After the melee, the protesters went to Colon Street where they peacefully ended their protest action with a rally at about 5 p.m.

PROTESTERS try to break into the Malacañang in Cebu but are stopped by barbed wires and a phalanx of policemen.

JUNJIE MENDOZA/CON

Rodriguez claimed some 2,000 joined the rally, but the policemen said they were only about 200 protesters.

There were around 150 policemen from the combined forces of the Regional Mobile Group and Cebu City Police Office (CCPO), plus 30 Air Force and another 30 Army personnel, who were deployed at the vicinity of the Malacañang sa Sugbo and the adjoining Plaza Independencia Park and Cebu City Hall.

A separate rally by the Laban ng Masa held at Fuente Osmeña Rotunda at 4 p.m. yesterday was participated in by about 200 protesters. They dispersed peacefully shortly before 6 p.m.

While at 6 p.m. last night, members of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ of Pastor Apollo Quiboloy also held a prayer rally in support of Ms Arroyo at the Capitol grounds.

Ms Arroyo claims a stronghold in Cebu which gave her a one million margin of victory against the late actor Fernando Poe Jr.

But critics said the President rigged the results of the elections and was caught in a wiretapped conversation discussing how to cheat in the elections with former election official Virgilio Garcillano.

Bicol solon sees change of allies in Congress

NAGA CITY—Camarines Sur Rep. Luis Villafuerte has predicted a realignment of political forces in the House and Senate when Congress resumes its session on July 25.

"The members of the House in particular will have to state clearly and categorically who among them have shifted or intend to transfer to the political opposition or will choose to become independent," Villafuerte said in a statement.

The Bicolano lawmaker said these congressmen would no longer be considered as part of the majority coalition in the House of Representatives.

"Some may not leave the political party where they belong but will expressly align themselves in their individual capacities with the majority coalition," he said.

"But those who shall leave the administration coalition, regardless of whether they align with the opposition parties or become independent, are expected to lose their chairmanships of or membership in committees, to the extent that they obtained such positions as part of the coalition of the majority," Villafuerte said.

He deemed it essential that those who no longer believe in staying with the parties supporting the administration make their positions clear.

"This is not the time for straddling, flip-flopping or fence-sitting. Particularly for those who questioned the legitimacy of the administration of GMA or expressed skepticism on her ability to govern, they should now make an unequivocal stand," Villafuerte added.

"At this crucial point in our national life, we, who belong to the administration coalition, should decide whether we will stay with the administration bloc or not. We cannot afford allies who speak with forked tongues ...," he said.

Villafuerte said he also concurred with the policy statement articulated by House Majority Leader Rep. Prospero Nograles that the political renegades in the House should not wait to be removed from their committee chairmanships or other positions of leadership in committees but should voluntarily, out of *delicadeza*, resign. *Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Words mean a lot for proponents of population bill

BAGUIO CITY—People concerned about the growing population of the country, as well as the maternal and child health situation, are again pushing another measure in Congress.

But this time they would not be using the term "reproductive health."

They would now be pushing the passage of House Bill 3773 or the Responsible Parenthood and Population Management Act of 2005. This would replace HB 4110 or the Reproductive Health Care Act.

"This is a country which loves euphemisms," said Everdina Doctor, Department of Interior and Local Government director in the Cordillera.

"There are so many things unacceptable. But the truth is, many local government units wanted to come out with population management and reproductive health programs but they cannot because no national law [is available] to guide them. This (HB 3773) is a good start," Doctor said.

Dr. Myrna Cabotaje, Department of Health Cordillera director, said the term "reproductive health" had been associated, particularly by the Catholic Church, with abortion.

Cabotaje said the new bill was just making the concept of reproductive health more acceptable.

"We should be open-minded about this," she said.

HB 3773 defines reproductive health as the "state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, in all matters relating to the reproductive system and to its functions and processes." *Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Militants rally vs GMA in Visayas

MILITANT groups led protest-rallies in key cities and towns in the Visayas yesterday, coinciding with the national protest in Makati City demanding for President Arroyo's resignation.

At least 2,500 participated in the protest action in Iloilo, another 2,000 in Bacolod, about 1,000 each in Roxas and Kalibo, about 500 in Tacloban and another 500 in Cebu.

In Iloilo City, the protesters led by Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) and the Arroyo Resign Movement-Panay marched in the city's main streets before holding a rally at the Iloilo Rotary Amphitheater.

The protest was joined by farmers, workers, lawyers, religious groups, government employees and students along with opposition groups under the United Opposition (UNO-Iloilo).

The protesters broke in to applause and cheers as activists performed a skit on the "Hello Garci" tape.

The Bacolod protesters marched to the city's public plaza to demand for the ouster of President Arroyo in a rally organized by the Negros Movement for Moral Regeneration composed of members of the Bayan and the FPJ Movement.

A prayer vigil and torch parade, led by members of Bangon Pilipinas Movement and Bayan Negros, drew a crowd of only about 300 at the Bacolod Public Plaza Tuesday night.

Participating groups at the rally, although united in calling for Ms Arroyo's resignation, differed on who should assume power, with Bayan secretary general Felipe Levy Gelle reiterating that his group favors a takeover by a revolutionary government, while FPJ Movement-Negros head Rodolfo Parreño said the next leader of the country will really depend on who the people will choose following a people power revolution. *Reports from Joey Gabieta, Felipe Celino, Raj Padilla, Carla Gomez, Nestor Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau*

Environmentalists join calls to oust Gloria

LUCENA CITY—Environment activists joined the growing chorus calling for the immediate resignation of embattled President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

"We are joining rallies and protest actions to denounce the most unpopular, corrupt and anti-environment President and to expedite her removal from office," Clemente Bautista, of Kalikasan-People's Network for the Environment and an Enraged convenor, said in a statement.

Enraged is the first broad environmental alliance calling for Ms Arroyo to step down.

"President Macapagal-Arroyo has failed grossly as a President in the aspect of environmental protection and natural resource management. Her intransigence not only imperils our country's moral fiber but also endangers the state of our environment; thus GMA must immediately step down," according to Enraged. *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Served fresh, monthly.
Last chance to grab your special MVP Cup issue for FREE!
July 14, MVP Cup. Distributed at all exits of the Philsports Arena.
Inquirer Badminton

WIN this Gintong Aklat today!

The Living with Nature Handbook

Written by Abercio V. Rotor, Ph.D.
Published by UST Publishing House

Buknoy

July 14, 2005 Today's Question:
Which history book was written by Onofre Corpuz?
A. *The Roots of the Filipino Nation* **B. *Contracting Colonialism***
C. *Filipinos and their Revolution*

Pre-register as follows. Text NBDB<space>REG<space>Name<space>Address<space>Age<space>Sex and send to 283 for Smart/Talk 'N Text/Addict Mobile and 2378 for Globe/Touch Mobile.

Text answer as follows: Text NBDB<space>answer and send to 283 for Smart/Talk 'N Text/Addict Mobile and 2378 for Globe/Touch Mobile.

Join Aklat, Buklat, Mulat Txt Quiz **Powered by Mobile Concepts Asia**

Mahilig ka bang tumula? Visit Pinoypoets.com
Halina't sumali sa
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pinoypoets

07-13-05 Answer: C
Queena Lee-Chua is the author of the popular science work *Straight Talk on Everyday Mysteries.*

visit www.nbdb.gov.ph

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Schools become new fields of battle for Army, NPA

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—The new fronts for the government's war against insurgency in Central Luzon are schools.

Maj. Gen. Romeo Tolentino, commander of the Army's 7th Infantry Division, said the military's Peace Advocacy Program in the Academe (Papa), which started in June, would "instill among the participants an awareness on the relevance of peace for national growth and development."

Tolentino said forums under the Papa have been held in five of 36 private and public colleges and universities in Bulacan.

Among the seven provinces in Central Luzon, it is in Bulacan where communist rebels are most active, according to recent reports by the military's Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom).

Papa's speakers include three former NPA rebels and soldiers from the 7th Civil Affairs Unit, the 702nd Infantry Brigade and 56th Infantry Battalion.

"They have returned to the fold of the law and are now active peace advocates, lecturers on various topics in counter-insurgency and the government's peace initiatives, and organizers of grassroots organizations," Tolentino said, referring to Jun Alamo and two former rebels identified only as Mylene and Joy.

According to Tolentino, Alamo was the founding chair of the Citizens' Organization for Peace and Security (Cops Philippines), which he said is a "nationwide anti-communist organization."

Alamo, Tolentino said, was the organizer of the first Labor Partisan Unit (LPU) of the Kilusang Mayo Uno and a political officer of the Cebu District Party Committee of the CPP, NPA and the National Democratic Front.

Alamo, who surrendered in 1987, is the president of the speakers' bureau of the National Alliance for Democracy (NAD), an umbrella organization of more than 20 anti-communist groups, Tolentino said.

Mylene and Joy entered the NPA while in their teens. They also surrendered in 1987.

The Papa team interacted with faculty members and students of the Fernandez College of Arts and Trade and the Asian College of Science and Technology in Baliuag town; Bulacan State University in Malolos City; Bulacan National Agricultural School in San Ildefonso town; and Asia Tech Educational Foundation Inc. and FF Halili National Agricultural School, both in Sta. Maria town.

Attendance in the forum was compulsory, according to some students who resented being forced to attend the activities. *Tonette Orejas and Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

ROUNDUP

Illegal recruiter jailed

CITY OF CALAPAN—Priscila Mahencio, 36, a job recruiter, is now in jail after agents of the National Bureau of Investigation entrapped her for illegal recruitment and estafa at a fast food here on July 1. The NBI said Mahencio first asked the victims, her cousins, to deposit money to the account of her two companions in Manila. While the victims were complaining to the recruiter, she again asked for visa renewal fees from them. Six victims, led by Leonila Montemar, still hoped that they would get back the P454,000 cash they paid last year for placement in jobs in Korea.

Madonna Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Suspected rebel captured

LUCENA CITY—Government forces captured a suspected New People's Army rebel and wounded two others in San Francisco, Quezon on Sunday morning, according to Lt. Gen. Pedro Cabuay, commander of the Armed Forces Southern Luzon Command (Solcom). He identified the arrested rebel as Jimmy Estangco Jr., of Barangay Badajos of the said town. Report said soldiers encountered six NPA rebels in the vicinity of Sitio Madigaa, Barangay Inabuhan. A gunfight followed, after which the rebels retreated. Estangco was later found in a hospital in San Francisco while recuperating from a bullet wound in the right shoulder. He was transferred to the Solcom hospital. *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Mindoro joins WOW exhibit

CITY OF CALAPAN—Mindoro will join Southern Tagalog in its exhibit during WOW Philippines' "The Best of the Regions" in Intramuros, Manila from July 21-31. The Oriental Mindoro Provincial Tourism Council will hold "sales missions" where its staff will go to in selected schools and establishments to invite them to Intramuros. The province will showcase resorts and home-based products like virgin coconut oil, herbal bath soaps and honey bee. A wedding gown made of Mangyan cloth, beads and other native materials designed by Mindoreño Nitoy del Mundo will be modeled by Oriental Mindoro Vice Gov. Ma. Estela Felipa Aceron. *Madonna Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Jail guard killed in ambush

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—A jail guard was killed while a prisoner he was escorting was seriously wounded after gunmen waylaid them on their way back to the provincial jail from a court hearing in Talisay town on July 8. Killed was jail officer Marlon Aquino, a member of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology in Batangas City and wounded was Nemesio Roxas, a detainee at the provincial jail who is facing charges for rape, murder and physical injuries at the Talisay municipal trial court. Police said the two were about to board their service vehicle when the gunman suddenly approached them and shot at them. The suspect then fled aboard a white Toyota Corolla car. Aquino died on the spot from a bullet wound in the chest while Roxas suffered a bullet wound in the back.

Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Complaint through text

ISUSUMBONG KO KAYO!

CITY OF CALAPAN—The Public Assistance and Response Center of the City Public Safety Department has proposed a system of texting public complaints, said Marvin Panahon, city planning Officer IV. Called "Reklamo Mo, Text Mo," the proposal was inspired by the same project of the provincial government of Nueva Ecija, Panahon added. The two telecommunications giants, Smart and Globe, will present their systems that will include validation of text messages to avoid nuisance texts. *Madonna Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Soldiers' honesty lauded

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—The Landbank of the Philippines lauded two soldiers of the 26th Infantry Battalion based in Bukidnon who returned an overpayment of P50,000 when they encashed a check for the government troops' allowances on March 11. Maj. Alexis Noel Bravo, spokesperson of the 4th Infantry Division, identified the soldiers as Maj. Tirso Ogahayon, disbursing officer of 26th IB, and T/Sgt. Fredilino Ramos. "We commend the honest action of Major Ogahayon and T/Sergeant Ramos for returning an overpayment made by our teller last March 11 amounting to P50,000," Tisa Rodriguez, LBP manager in CDO said in its letter to the 4th ID.

Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Huk commander Alejandrino; 94

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Casto Alejandrino, vice commander of the anti-Japanese resistance group Hukbo ng Bayan Laban sa Hapon (Hukbalahap), died on Tuesday in Cabiao, Nueva Ecija. He was 94. His nephew, Carlos Alejandrino, said his uncle had no known illness but felt weak before he died at about 4 p.m. on Tuesday. Alejandrino also served as chief of staff of the Hukbong Mapagpalaya ng Bayan and provisional governor of Pampanga during the reign of socialist leaders in that province. His death came two months after Hukbalahap chief, Luis Taruc, died. Under socialist rule, Alejandrino was elected mayor of Arayat, Pampanga, in 1946. He was representative of the Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas during peace talks with representatives of the administration of the late President Ramon Magsaysay.

Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Execs foil looting of sunken ship

OLONGAPO CITY—The Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority and the Philippine Coast Guard foiled another attempt to loot a sunken vessel at the Subic Bay here.

Felipe Macababbad, PCG station commander here, said the loot, a ship's bow estimated to weigh a ton, was already on the shore of Barrio Barretto when personnel from the PCG in Subic town and the SBMA tourism department went there on Monday.

Macababbad said the loot was taken from a Japanese vessel submerged in Baloy Beach here.

He said they have identified five residents as suspects in the illegal salvage operation of a national treasure. They were Renyl Varela, Rosito Elicano, Jess Marcia, Renato Olicia and Willy David, the alleged financier.

On Wednesday, Macababbad said the PCG and the suspects reached an agreement for the voluntary return of the loot.

It was the second reported looting of sunken vessels in two months.

On June 13, a dive instructor at the Subic Freeport said a sunken American vessel, which has become one of the popular diving sites in Subic, was looted.

Diver Butch Horacio said while he and some tourists were on a recreational dive last month, he noticed that some of the USS New York's pipes, cables and port holes were missing.

The looting prompted Kenneth Peralta, SBMA tourism department head, to call for a consultancy meeting on Tuesday among Subic Bay investors, dive shop owners and police officials.

During the meeting, dive shop owners assailed personnel of the PCG and the SBMA harbor patrol for their supposed inability to check not only the rampant looting of sunken vessels, but cyanide and dynamite fishing in Subic Bay as well.

Peralta said the SBMA law enforcement and tourism departments, together with some investors, conducted a surprise monitoring of areas in Subic Bay in May this year and discovered that at least 10 unregistered boats were conducting cyanide fishing.

"They seem to be operating with impunity," a dive shop owner who was with the monitoring team said during the meeting.

"We have uniformed law enforcement personnel with us, we purposely flew a Coast Guard flag when we patrolled the area, but no one among those illegal fishermen seemed to mind us," he said.

Subic dive shop owners also said that only 27 of the 30 sunken vessels are still in Subic. *Ansbert Joaquin, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Gunman attacks detachment, kills 3

COTABATO CITY—Three persons, two of them soldiers, were killed when a lone gunman attacked an Army detachment in Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat Tuesday afternoon.

Two soldiers died when a motorcycle-riding man fired at the detachment of the Task Force Talakudong, an anti-kidnapping unit of the Army's Sixth Infantry Division, at around 1:30 p.m. yesterday.

Maj. Gen. Agustin Dema-ala, 6th ID chief, said the suspect, dressed in fatigues, used M-14 rifles in their attack on the detachment, killing two soldiers.

"The soldiers returned fire and he (suspect) was also killed," he said.

Eid Kabalu, Moro Islamic Liberation Front spokesperson, said the first report they received from their informants revealed that the suspect was a member of the Pentagon kidnap for ransom gang.

The Pentagon, blamed for at least 50 kidnapping cases in Mindanao, first gained notoriety on Oct. 17, 2001, when it abducted Italian priest Guissepe Pierrantoni while he was saying Mass in Dimatali town, Zamboanga del Sur. But Kabalu added that they also received another report that the suspect was "a militiaman based in nearby Buluan town in Maguindanao."

Col. Jerry Jalandoni, commanding officer of the 604th Army Brigade said the still unidentified suspect was indeed from Buluan town. *Jeoffrey Maitem and Aquiles Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Autozentrum BMW
Sheer Driving Pleasure
0904 BZ

Quality priced to let you enjoy more of life.
At Autozentrum BMW.

BMW Certified Pre-Owned
Sometimes brand is more important than new.

Quality priced BMW Certified Pre-Owned vehicles for you to experience the joys of driving a BMW. Visit Autozentrum BMW from July 15 -17 for our BMW CPO private sale and ask our Sales Executives about our special finacing packages.

BMW Certified Pre-Owned

BMW 318i Touring
2003 Blue Water
3,210km, P2,250,000

BMW 316i
2000 Calypso Red
60,000km, P900,000

BMW 316i Ed.
2002 Titanium Silver
27,162km, P1,150,000

BMW 325i M Sport
2005 Titanium Silver
3,136km, P3,600,000

BMW 120i Exec.
2004 Quartz Blue
4,898km, P1,995,750

BMW 520i Limo.
2004 Titanium Silver
6,834km, P3,990,000

BMW X3 2.5i Sport
2005 Silver Grey
1,971km, P3,550,000

BMW X3 2.5i Sport
2005 Black Sapphire
8,802km, P3,550,000

BMW X3 2.5i Sport
2005 Mystic Blue
11,597km, P3,550,000

BMW X3 3.0i Exec.
2005 Titanium Silver
3,386km, P4,150,000

BMW X5 3.0 Exec.
2004 Titanium Silver
7,140km, P5,492,000

BMW X5 3.0 Exec.
2004 Steel Grey
8,117km, P5,492,000

Autozentrum BMW Madrigal Business Park, Commerce Ave., Alabang, Muntinlupa • Tel. (02) 772 6021 to 24 • Fax (02) 772 6025

LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES
2nd Flr LMP Bldg 265 Ermin Garcia St., Cubao, Quezon City
Telephone Nos. 913-57-37 to 38. 440-72-80 440-7309

"MANIFESTO OF ADHERENCE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, THE RULE OF LAW AND EXPRESSING OUR UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT TO THE LEGITIMACY OF THE PRESIDENCY OF GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO"

We, the members of the League of the Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP), the association of 1,501 municipalites nationwide duly creadted by virtue of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local government Code of 1991 and is mandated to "ventilate, articulate and crystallize issues affecting municipal government administration and finding, through proper and legal means, solutions thereto, "categorically state:

1. That President Gloria Macapagal - Arroyo is the duy elected President of the Republic of Philippines by virtue of the provisions of our Constitution and of our laws and was proclaimed by the very institutions established by the fundamental law of the land;
2. That we, as the duly elected chief executives of our respective localities and as presidents of our respective LMP Provincial Chapters believe that it is incumbent upon us to stress the practice of democracy in our country;
3. That, as local chief executives, we are the frontliners in public service and is in the best position to feel the real sentiments and thoughts of our respective constituents;
4. That, during the past few days, several events have unfolded causing undue harm to the entire nation and we believe, as local chief executives that this political crisis could could be resolved through the observance of and adherence to the Constitutional processes and that we strongly denounce any and all legal and unconstitutional means to address these political conflicts.

Now therefore, we the members of the National Directorate representing the League of Municipalities of the Philippines urge all Filipinos to continue with their daily lives and allow our Constitution to take its natural course in resolving this crisis.

Done this 10th day of July 2005 at the Traders Shangri-La Hotel, Pasay City during the Special National Directorate Meeting.

Mayor RAMON N. GUICO, JR.
National President
Pangasinan

Mayor BETTY C. VERZOLA
Apayao

Mayor JOAQUIN [illegible]
[illegible]

Mayor JUPITER C. [illegible]
Mt. Province

Mayor EUFRANIO C. ERIGUEL
La Union

Mayor ALVARO T. ANTONIO
Cagayan

Mayor WILLIAM T. UY
Isabela

Mayor NELSON C. DAVID
Bataan

Mayor DENNIS G. PINEDA
Pampanga

Mayor FELIPE HILAN A. NAVA
Guimaras

Mayor JOSEPHINE C. JUMAMOY
Bohol

Mayor GERARDO [illegible], JR.
Biliran

Mayor PEDRO V. [illegible], JR.
Southern Leyte

Mayor MARGARITO [illegible]
Compostela Valley

Mayor GERARDO V. CALDERON
Secretary General
Rizal

Mayor HECTOR B. [illegible]
Benguet

Mayor ALLEN JESSE MANGAOANG
Kalinga

Mayor JESUS R. DUENO, JR.
Ilocos Sur

Mayor ANASTACIO A. BARBANA
Batanes

Mayor NAPOLEON S. UY
Isabela

Mayor FLORANTE T. RUIZ
Quirino

Mayor BLAS A. CANLAS
Nueva Ecija

Mayor MARINO P. MORALES
[illegible]

Mayor [illegible] J. DE LA CRUZ
Negros Occidental

Mayor RONALD [illegible] CESANTE
Cebu

Mayor FRANCISCO [illegible] ROSALES, JR.
Northern Samar

Mayor MELQUIADES D. AZCUNA, JR.
Misamis Occidental

Mayor REYNALDO DAYANGHIRANG
Compostela Valley

Mayor JULIE R. [illegible]
Romblon

Mayor ESTELITA [illegible] AQUINO
Tarlac

Mayor GUILLERMO DL. ACERO
Laguna

Mayor FERDINAND THOMAS SOLLER
Oriental Mindoro

Mayor LUCENA D. DEMAALA
Palawan

Mayor JUAN M. GARCIA II
Albay

Mayor MELQUIADES I. GAITE
Camarines Sur

Mayor LORENZO TEMPLONUEVO
Catanduanes

Mayor ROBERTO M. GARCIA, JR.
Aklan

Mayor MARY JEAN N. TE
Antique

Mayor LEOPOLDO A. MONTEROSO
Davao del Norte

Mayor DATU BENJAMIN M. BAGUL (SGD)
Lanao del Sur

Mayor ANNABELLE [illegible]
Misamis Occidental

Mayor LUZVIMINDA J. TAN
North Cotabato

Mayor JEFFREY KHONGHUN

Mayor ROGELIO ELVENA
Tayum, Abra

Mayor ADORLITO M. GINETE
Batangas

Mayor DAVID V. EMRALINO
Quezon

Mayor NORBERTO MENDOZA
Oriental Mindoro

Mayor GEMINIANO O. GALICIA, JR.
Romblon

Mayor WILFREDO B. OCO
Camarines Norte

Mayor ELMO L. [illegible]
Camarines Sur

Mayor [illegible] VICENTE MARISTELA
Masbate

Mayor CHRISTOPHER H. PIOCIO
Antique

Mayor FELIPE B. BARREDO
[illegible]

Mayor ARFICON L. QUIÑONES
Davao Oriental

Mayor MANDEL [illegible] ALAMEDA
Surigao del Sur

Vice Mayor RUDY LUNA
Misamis Occidental

Mayor INDIRA HITGANO (SGD)
Agusan del Sur

Mayor ANTONIO RIVERA
Dolores, Eastern Samar

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Variations on a theme: Proponents / opponents

WHO'S WHO

Resign GMA; VP Noli de Castro to assume presidency

Corazon Aquino, Hyatt 10/ Resigned Cabinet members, Liberal Party (Drilon), Makati Business Club (Romulo), Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines, De La Salle University administration, University of St. La Salle-Bacolod City, Association of Major Religious Superiors of the Philippines, National Council of Churches in the Philippines, Philippine Muslim Solidarity Council, Code-NGO, FLAG, Committee for the Defense of Lawyers (Codal), Federation of Free Farmers, Gloria Step Down Movement, Jose W. Diokno Foundation, Kapatiran Party/Nandy Pacheco, National Confederation of Cooperatives, National Peace Conference, UP College of Law faculty, UP Baguio faculty, UP Diliman University Council, The Assembly-Ateneo de Manila University, Student Christian Movement in the Philippines, Concerned Faculty, Professionals & Staff-Ateneo de Manila University, Sanggunian ng Mag-Aaral ng Pamantasang Ateneo de Manila and other student groups and NGOs, Fr. Robert Reyes, Teofisto Guingona, Panfilo Lacson, Roilo Golez.

Resign GMA; Hold snap elections

Raul Roco

Resign GMA ; Install a revolutionary council

Renato de Villa

Resign GMA, Cabinet and Comelec

Pag-asa/Fr. Robert Reyes and Fr. Raul Enriquez

Resign GMA & Noli; Hold snap elections

Aquilino Pimentel, Council on Philippine Affairs, UP Manila Student Council

Resign GMA & Noli; Install a "righteous and principled revolutionary government"

Bangon Pilipinas/Bro. Eddie Villanueva

Resign GMA & Noli; Install a caretaker government

United Opposition (UNO) to include the Estradas and Horacio Morales

Resign GMA & Noli; Install a people's democratic council of leaders representing sectors

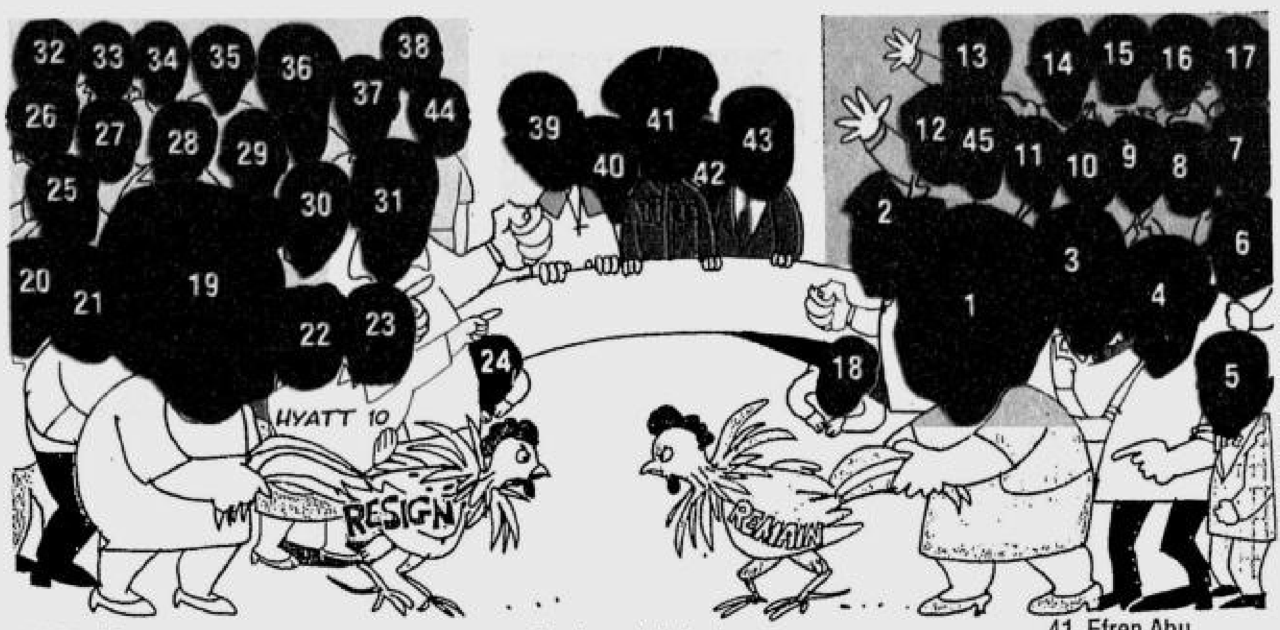
Kilusang Mayo Uno, Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, Gabriela, Kilusang Makabansang Ekonomiya (Fathers Yniguez, Tobias & Labayen), Kilusang Mayo Uno, Pamalakaya,
LGC-NET, Maypagasa, Migrante, National Coordinating Council of Volunteers for Poe, Coalition for National Solidarity

Resign GMA & Noli; Install a revolutionary transition government

Sanlakas, Freedom from Debt Coalition, Akbayan, Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino, Partidong Manggagawa, Laban ng Masa, Alab Katipunan

Resign GMA & Noli; Install a junta or a revolutionary transition council

Coalition for National Salvation: Christian Nationalist Union/Ret. Army chief Fortunato Abat, Philippine Consultative Assembly/Linda Montayre, resigned NLRC chief Roy Señeres



1. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
2. Michael Defensor
3. Miriam Defensor-Santiago
4. Fidel Ramos
5. Mike Velarde
6. Reynaldo Wycoco
7. Donald Dee
8. Lito Atienza
9. Tomas Osmeña
10. Jose de Venecia
11. Raul Gonzalez
12. Mike Arroyo
13. Mikey Arroyo
14. Imelda Marcos
15. Arturo Lomibao
16. Luis "Chavit" Singson
17. Edward Hagedorn
18. Virgilio Garcillano
19. Corazon Aquino
20. Raul Roco
21. Franklin Drilon
22. Dinky Soliman
23. Cesar Purisima
24. Samuel Ong
25. Bro. Armin Luistro
26. Teddy Casiño
27. Etta Rosales
28. Bro. Eddie Villanueva
29. Francis Escudero
30. Jejomar Binay
31. Joseph Estrada
32. Imee Marcos
33. Ricardo Romulo
34. Bishop Oscar Cruz
35. Roilo Golez
36. Susan Roces
37. Panfilo Lacson
38. Fr. Robert Reyes
39. Bishop Fernando Capalla
40. Vice President Noli de Castro
41. Efren Abu
42. Loren Legarda
43. Joseph Mussomeli
44. Aquilino Pimentel
45. Eduardo Ermita

Impeach GMA

Oliver Lozano, Rizalino Lazaro, House of Representatives Minority Bloc/ Francis Escudero

Let GMA decide

Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, Catholic Educators Association of the Philippines, Federation of Philippine Industries, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches, Ateneo Law Alumni Foundation, Jose and Raul Concepcion

No to resignation; Set up truth commission

Solita Monsod, Assumption College, University of Sto. Tomas, Youth for Peace and Development (Y-PAD)

Support GMA; Charter change to shift to parliamentary system and hold elections by 2006

Fidel Ramos and Jose de Venecia

No to extra-constitutional means

Couples for Christ, Members of Makati Business Club (Aboitiz-Yuchengco), Association of Securities Analysts of the Philippines

No public statement

Iglesia ni Kristo

Support GMA/No to Resignation

Lakas-CMD, Nacionalista Party, Liberal Party (Atienza-Mar Roxas Group), Philippine National Police, Ulap: League of Provinces, League of Municipalities of the Philippines, City & town mayors (Pampanga, QC, Manila, Puerto Princesa, Davao City), Mindanao governors, city and town mayors, Reform Now Movement: Aguman Pilipino, Kasangga at Gabay, Kalayaan College officers and Filipino Communities Abroad (OFW Leaders in Riyadh, Federation of Filipino Communities in Israel, Filipino Community in Malaysia, Mga Pilipino sa Singapore, Filipino Community Social Club-Oman, Philippine Nurses Association of the United Kingdom and United Filipino Community in Kuwait), Filipino Muslim Democratic Alliance, Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Vanguard of the Philippine Constitution, Inc., the 16 Royal Houses (Sultanate) of Lanao, Muslim Association of the Philippines and other Muslim organizations

Support elected president

El Shaddai/ Mike Velarde

Neutral

Armed Forces of the Philippines

BY PDI RESEARCH/INFOGRAPHIC: ESAMBO

HOLLYWOOD DREAM
Hosted by Eric Quizon

THE DREAM BEGINS JULY 17! The much-talked - about reality show "Hollywood Dream" will finally begin! Find out who will get a chance to fly to New York and Los Angeles, meet Hollywood producers and casting directors, get a Screen Actors Guild card, appear on "As the World Turns" and land a role in 2 movies being produced in Hollywood!

SUNDAY 9:00 PM

ClickTheCity.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER TV GUIDE

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
NBN	Environmental Documentary	Value Vision			Teledyaryo	Value Vision	Next Stop			The Working President	Family Rosary Crusade	Teledyaryo		Network Forum		Business & Leisure			
ABS-CBN 2	Kapamilya Cinema				Pasion de Amor	Mr. Bean	Naruto	Opids	Meteor Garden Season 2	TV Patrol World	Mga Anghel Na Walang Langit	Ikaw Ang Lahat Sa Akin	Kampanerang Kuba	Green Rose	Oh! Feel Young	Maalaala Mo Kaya			Insider
ABC 5			EZ Shop		FIBA (Reruns)				Sentro	American Idol			The Best Of Guinness Book Of Records		Big News	Inq TV		ESPN Golf	
GMA 7	Saang Sulok Ng Langit	Now and Forever	Glass Shoes	Tenjho Tenge	Shaman King	Flame Of Recca	Full House	24 Oras		Darna	Encantadia	Sugo		Attic Cat	Extra Challenge	Magpakailanman			Saksi
RPN 9		Metro TV Shopping	Defenders Of The Earth	Hey Arnold!	As Told By Ginger	Wild Thornberries	Sponge Bob	The Insider	WWE PPV Summer Slam 2004					Band Of Brothers		Newswatch Now	Video Hit Parade	Kasangga Mo Ang Langit	Police Hour
IBC 13		EZ Shop		EZ Shop		Home Shopping Network	IBC Express Balita	Pangarap Kong Jackpot		Shakey's V-League				TM Phil 9-Ball			IBC News Tonite		
SBN 21		Morph TV		Shepherds Voice		SBN Sing Along		Powerline	Gospel Of The Kingdom			Give Us This Day		Behold		The Kingdom Of Jesus Christ		Evening Devotions	
Studio 23								Batman Beyond	Beyblade	Wazzup Wazzup	Birds Of Prey	Alias		Desperate Housewives		News Central	Oprah		Chefs On The Go
MTV Philippines			Hangin Out at MTV		MTV Get Spotted		TRL		Lokal: Orange & Lemons	MTV Dives		Battle for Ozzfest	One Bad Trip	Wildboyz	Cribs	On Board at MTV	MTV Urban Beats	VH1 Video Collection	
MYX	Star MYX	Urban MYX	Rock MYX	OPM MYX	My MYX	Take 5	MYX Backtrax	MYX Firsts	Mellow MYX	Pop MYX	Urban MYX	MYX Daily Top Ten		MYX Presents		My MYX	OPM MYX	MYX Backtrax	Mellow MYX
CNN		Business International		Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	Business International		World News	World Sport	World News Asia		World News	World Sport	World News Asia		Your World Today	
Solar Sports		TV Shopping		2005 Fiba World Grand Prix				Las Vegas Summer League				Kow Magazine	Sports Desk	WTA '05 J & S Cup Warsaw (Finals)					
Sports Plus					Celebrity Poker				Raceworld		Tour De France	French Open Highlights				Tour De France	NASCAR Race Title (TBD) Chicago		
Cinemax			Prehysteria (3:45PM)			The Scoundrel's Wife (5:15 PM)				Hollywood Homicide				A Case For Murder			Hostile Waters		
Hallmark Channel	Who's The Boss	Strong Medicine		HCA: The Fairytaler	Sesame Street		Mad About You	Who's The Boss	The Nanny	Sue Thomas: F.B.Eye		Strong Medicine					Judging Amy (10:35PM)		Sue Thomas: F.B.Eye
Disney Channel	Mr. Bean: The Animated Series	Totally Spies	Art Attack/Un-talkative Bunny	So Little Time	Buzz Lightyear of Star Command	Martin Mystery	Totally Spies	Kim Possible	Mr. Bean: The Animated Series	House Of Mouse	George Of The Jungle 2			So Little Time	Sabrina, The Animated Series	Mickey Mouse and Friends	Chip N Dale's Rescue Ranger	Treasure Planet	
Discovery Channel		Hour Asia		First Time Film Makers	Hour China	Wild Discovery		Wild Weather		Extreme Machines		We Built This City		The Ultimate Guide		Extraordinary Experiences: Journey To The Ends Of The Earth: The Road To Shangri-la		Power Zone	
National Geographic		Frontlines Of Construction		Marine Machine		Demolition Dynasty		Wildlife Detectives	Insects From Hell	Wow		About Asia		Nat'l Geographic Specials		Frontlines Of Construction		Marine Machine	
Cartoon Network	Scooby-Doo Show	The All New Popeye Show		Tom & Jerry Show	The Woody Woodpecker Show	X-Men Evolution	Static Shock	Xiaolin Showdown	Teen Titans	Zoids Fuzors	Medabots	The Looney Tunes Show		The Powerpuff Girls	Dexter's Laboratory	Time Squad	Thundercats	Xiaolin Showdown	Teen Titans
Nickelodeon	Blues Clues	Rugrats	The Fairly Odd Parents	SpongeBob SquarePants	All That	Are You Afraid of the Dark?	100 Deeds of Eddie McDowd	The Amanda Show	The Adventures Jimmy Neutron	Fairly Odd Parents	SpongeBob SquarePants	As Told By Ginger	Yakkity Yak	Chalkzone	Rocket Power	Hey Arnold!	The Wild Thornberrys	The Angry Beavers	Rugrats
Lifestyle Network	Secret Gardens	The Fix	Mission Organization	Carol Duvall	Molto Mario	Hot Off The Grill	Good Eats	Extreme Cuisine	Unwrapped	Tyler's Ultimate	E! News Weekend		Good Finds	Life & Style		E! True Hollywood Story		Road & Track	Back To Basics
Star World		The Bold & The Beautiful		Hollywood Squares	Home Improvement	Buffy The Vampire Slayer		The Simpsons	The Drew Carey Show	Star News Asia	Friends	Invasion Iowa	Growing Up Gotti	The Simple Life	Arrested Development	The Apprentice		Friends	Invasion Iowa
AXN		Fear Factor (Season V)		CSI: NY (Season I)		Guinness World Records: 50 Years, 50 Records		The Associates (Season II)		Alias (Season III)		Worst Case Scenario		Lost		Hangman			
JackTV	Just For Laughs	Just For Laughs	Ride With Funk Master Flex	WWE: ECW: One Night Stand				Cinematch	Family Guy	Mad TV		Reno 911	Crank Yankers	South Park	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart	Hip-Hop Nation	Ride With Funk Master Flex	WWE Velocity	
ETC		Significant Others	Knock First	Blind Date	Fifth Wheel	Elimidate	Change of Heart	Seinfeld	Ambush Makeover	Good Morning Miami	Commited	American Dreams		Queer Eye For The Straight Girl		Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	
HBO			Kazaam (3:20PM)			Seeing Double (4:55PM)			The Last Samurai					Sinbad: Legend Of The Seven Seas			Trapped (10:25PM)		
Star Movies			The Grinch (3:40PM)				Rocky II				Liar Liar			Just Married			Edward Scissorhands		
Cinema One		Colegiala				Lahar				Ang Erpat Kong Astig				Ika-13 Kapitulo				Balahibong Pusa	
EWTN	A Christian Pilgrimage To Jordan	Angelus (3:15PM)	Suffering Church	Angel Force	Children's Rosary	The Holy Rosary With Mother Angelica and the Nuns Of Our Lady Of Angels Monastery	The Spirit Of Catholic Leadership	Saints: A Closer Look	EWTN Gallery	EWTN Live With Father Mitch Pacwa		Pope John Paul's Legacy To The Family	Council Of Faith	Daily Mass		Angelus (10:15PM)	Holy Spirit In The Church	The Journey Home	

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Ang inyong tagapaghatid ng ulat-pangmulat
alas-10 ng gabi na! Tuwing Huwebes
Ating kabalitaan
Cheri Mercado
Dito lang sa ABC
INQ TV

40,000 cry out: GMA, resign

From page A1

cheered whenever personalities were ushered toward the stage.

"We want a resignation, we want changes, we want reforms now," Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay told reporters.

Wilson Fortaleza of the militant Sanlakas party said the protest was "a preview for a bigger storm. He said "the situation is not yet ripe for a full-blown 'people power'."

"We will not stop marching until she steps down," said Lacson, who had previously stayed away from opposition rallies.

"She must now think of the interest of the country," he added.

The opposition senator said the politicians agreed not to speak during the rally, saying the event was "a rally for the people."

Bigger rally on July 25

Already, plans are being drawn for a larger rally on July 25 when the President makes her annual State of the Nation Address at the opening of Congress, traditionally an occasion for massive protests.

INQUIRER reporters estimated the crowd in Makati at around 40,000—the same figure used by the Associated Press. Police put it at between 35,000 and 40,000. Opposition sources said the protesters numbered more than 65,000.

Still, it was nowhere near the mammoth rallies that preceded the ouster of Presidents Ferdinand Marcos in 1986 and Joseph Estrada in 2001.

Some priests helped swell the Makati crowd by urging their flock to join the protest. One of them, Fr. Raul Enriquez, called on Massgoers at the Edsa Shrine to go to Makati or to the People Power Monument on Edsa, where another priest, Fr. Robert Reyes, was holding a hunger strike.

"We're on the brink of civil war. We have to do something," Enriquez said.

Left-wing groups and supporters of Estrada, who has volunteered to serve as a transitional leader if Ms Arroyo is ousted, were transporting protesters by bus and jeeps from the provinces, police said. Organizers complained that protesters were being stopped before entering the capital.

Stopped, arrested

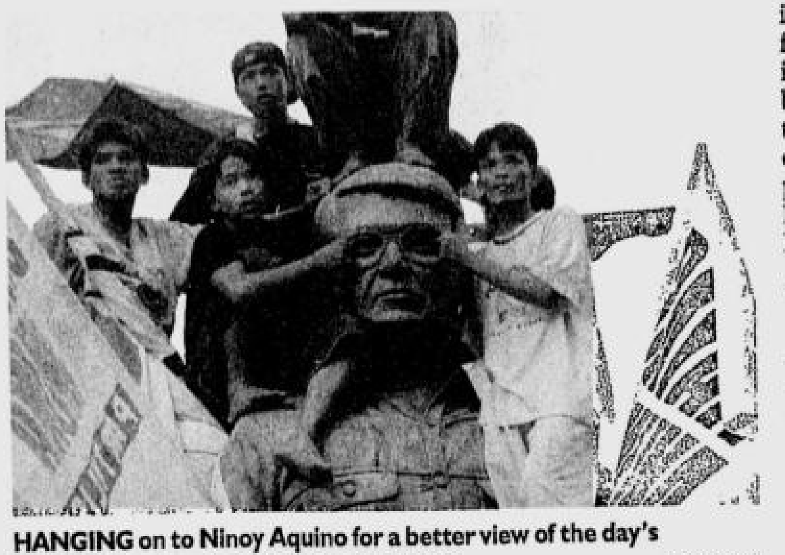
Around 40 members of an urban poor group were arrested with their leader while on their way to the rally. Police nabbed Jess del Prado, leader of the Kilusan para sa Pambansang Demokrasya (KPD), and his companions in the Divisoria area around 11:15 a.m.

Del Prado said the police stopped five of their jeepneys and arrested the KPD members, most of whom hailed from the Baseco and Parola area in Tondo, Manila. Police said they were arrested in connection with an intensified anticriminality campaign.

In the south, police briefly blocked at a checkpoint 600 militants marching from Laguna and Quezon toward Makati. Police said they were just being careful after receiving information that communist rebels planned to infiltrate the Makati rally.

Passenger jeeps carrying 500 protesters from Cavite and Batangas were also barred from passing through a police checkpoint in Bacoor, Cavite. In Sipocot, Camarines Sur, some 170 protesters from different provinces in Bicol were also stopped by the police.

About 6,000 police, backed by 1,000 soldiers, were deployed in the capital against possible attacks by al-Qaida-linked militants from the Abu Sayyaf group and Jemaah Islamiyah terror network, Metro Manila police chief Director Vidal Querol said.



HANGING on to Ninoy Aquino for a better view of the day's discontents played and displayed on stage. RAFFY LERMA

Coup rumors swirled on the eve of the rally. Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita yesterday confirmed news reports of a new plot and recruitment of supporters among middle-level officers.

A retired military officer who has been implicated in past coup attempts said that disgruntled soldiers were organizing groups that may take action against Ms Arroyo, while an Army captain, discussing the motivation for action, said the military must intervene when the government becomes ineffective.

'Theatrics'

Rigoberto Tiglao, chief of the Presidential Management Staff, said the protest did not worry Ms Arroyo. Calling it a part of opposition "theatrics," Tiglao said it was held in Makati to show the financial system was in a shambles.

"She won't just simply resign because of demonstrations in the streets, even if there are prominent figures asking her to resign," Tiglao said.

The 58-year-old President has apologized for talking to Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano in a telephone conversation that was tapped before she was declared winner. She has denied manipulating the vote.

Ms Arroyo has defied calls for her to resign, despite the resignation of seven of her Cabinet secretaries, the unexpected breakaway of her allies in Congress and Senate, in the business community and the academe and pleas by ex-President Corazon Aquino. *(See story on Page A1.)*

New lease on life

Lourdes Sytangco, Aquino's spokesperson, said the former President did not attend yesterday's protest, pointing out that she did not wish to see another People Power revolt.

A decision on Saturday by the influential Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines not to interfere in politics, statements by police and military officials they will remain neutral and a declaration of unwavering support by former President Fidel Ramos gave Ms Arroyo a lease on life, according to analysts.

'Hello, Garci'

The crowds began converging at noon on Ayala Avenue, where a sound system on a stage played the "Garci tapes," Poe's campaign theme song, "May Bagong Umaga," and sound bites from his widow, declaring "a liar is the brother of a thief." Roces has accused Ms Arroyo of stealing the elections "not once but twice."

"Hello Garci" ring tones were broadcast from the stage, as well as a portion of the wiretap where the President was allegedly asking Garcillano if she could maintain her one million vote lead.

The statue of assassinated opposition leader Benigno Aquino Jr. was adorned with signs declaring "Resign all," "*Gloria bumaba ka na, alis dyan*," and "Be not afraid."

GMA's men to the defense

As the protesters were gathering, House Speaker Jose de Venecia spoke on ABS-CBN television, hammering on the virtues of a parliamentary style of government and saying he had no ambition of becoming prime minister.

De Venecia and Ramos have revived their proposals to amend the presidential-style Constitution and provide Ms Arroyo a graceful way out of the current political turmoil.

Tiglao was asked about the latest independent survey showing 72 percent of people in Metro Manila did not trust Ms Arroyo. He said this was what happened when there was a well-funded and well-organized campaign against the President.

"My only question is: 'what happens if next month, or two months from now, the President's trust ratings go up again.' Surveys are surveys. It's the pulse of the people but it changes. You cannot determine the future of the presidency by any pulse," he said.

Revolution by media

Asked about observations that Filipinos tend to be influenced historically by surveys, Tiglao said: "I am not sure if it is the survey or the media. Media (have) become a very powerful tool in this day and age. Some political analysts are saying that if ever there would be a revolution at this time, it would be a revolution by media."

"What is at stake now is not only the presidency ... but the survival of our institutions," he said.

A Union Bank employee, who did not wish to be identified, said his company closed its offices and the employees told to go home, indicating it wanted its employees to attend the rally.

He said he was in favor of Ms Arroyo resigning: "How can I explain to my children that you can commit something wrong and you only have to apologize?"

Another rallyist, war veteran Cenon Credito, 79, said: "Gloria is OK but it's the people around her who are corrupt." *With reports from Juliet Labog-Javellana, Cynthia D. Balana, Margaux C. Ortiz, Marlon Ramos, Job B. Belen, Juan Escandor Jr., Gil Francis G. Arevalo, Delfin T. Mallari Jr. and Emir Emano Gamis, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

PNP, military top brass rally round GMA

By Luige A. del Puerto

TOP MILITARY and police officials closed ranks yesterday behind their beleaguered Commander in Chief and declared her administration would withstand the storm.

"It's a challenge that all of us can cope with," Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes said at a press conference. "We ask our people to remain calm. This is not a problem. We can handle this."

But he admitted that the police and the military were getting weary at the series of protest actions.

"They are tired of these rallies," he said.

Reyes, who has supervisory control of the 115,000-strong Philippine National Police, met with top military and police officials at Camp Crame to plan their response to yesterday's rally.

Present in the meeting were PNP chief Director General Arturo Lomibao, National Capital Region Police Office chief Director Vidal Querol, and several top police officials.

Joining them were Rear Adm. Tirso Danga, AFP deputy chief of staff for intelligence; Lt. Gen. Allan Cabalquinto, chief of the AFP National Capital Region Command; Brig. Gen. Marlou Quevedo, chief of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces; and, Brig. Gen. Isagani Cachuela, assistant chief for operations.

Coordinated efforts

The meeting underscored the seriousness of the situation. Police and military officials have not met officially to discuss the demonstrations since they started last month.

"We are here to coordinate our efforts at securing and ensuring peace and order in the country," Reyes said, adding that the PNP and AFP have a "thorough plan" about how to cope with the situation.

President Macapagal-Arroyo's order to the police and military was to allow the people to express themselves but at the same time to "protect the public's right to live in peace," said Reyes, one of Arroyo's closest allies.

Police earlier warned that the Abu Sayyaf and the New People's Army could exploit the Makati rally, but protesters dismissed the warning as a "scare tactic."

Keep calm

"To the general public, we say keep calm," Reyes said. "The government will see to it that turmoil and anarchy and chaos will not happen. That is the guidance of the President and that's what we are going to do."

Lomibao also warned that civilians caught in police or military uniforms during the rally faced charges of usurpation of authority. There were reports that such people would be joining the Makati crowd to make it appear that the police and military were split in their loyalty.

"We are going through a difficult period in our history, and we just ask our people to remain calm and remain united. We will get over this," Reyes said.

"We will observe the rule of law because the rule of law is what is necessary. We have to see to it that anarchy and turmoil and chaos will not happen—that is the most important thing. We don't want threat groups and groups with vested interests to exploit the situation," he said.

Erap bucks graceful exit for GMA

By Norman Bordadora

FORMER President Joseph Estrada does not want President Macapagal-Arroyo to enjoy a graceful exit that he was not accorded when he was forced out of Malacañang in January 2001.

Estrada was reacting to the proposal of former President Fidel Ramos to allow Ms Arroyo to stay on as President until the Constitution is changed to pave the way for a shift to a parliamentary form of government.

Under the Ramos proposal, elections will be held in May 2006 to choose the country's new leaders.

"Shifting from the presidential to the parliamentary system is not the answer," Estrada said.

"It is merely a stopgap measure to ensure that Ms Arroyo is not subjected to the humiliation which she herself caused upon me," the ousted President said in response to questions posed by the INQUIRER through his Partido ng Masa.

"The irony is, there was never any question of my mandate from the Filipino people. In sum, Mr. Ramos' proposal has no noble objective other than to prolong Mrs. Arroyo's stay in Malacañang. I am completely against it," he said.

Estrada said the country had been plunged into a political crisis because the administration committed fraud in the elections last year.

"It is not the system of government that is the problem. It is the person who sits in Malacañang. If the electoral process had been upheld especially by those who now sit in positions of power, then there would be no crisis," Estrada said.

A touch of show biz at business district

From page A1

In their skin-tight, white and blue outfits, they gyrated on a makeshift stage, rocking the country's financial center with a hot number.

Cheers also welcomed petite noon-time TV show host and comedienne Gladys Guevarra when she took the stage to sing "Isang Lahi," a patriotic song.

Night for Susan

But the night seemed to belong to one woman—Susan Roces.

The rally seemed to turn into a mob when a white car bearing the widow of late opposition presidential candidate and movie actor Fernando Poe Jr. appeared.

Men and women shrieked when she emerged from the car, dressed in a white blouse.

Only about 50 feet separated Susan from the stage but it took her something like 15 minutes to reach it as the demonstrators swarmed around her.

Marshalls led by actor Efren Reyes Jr. parted the pushing, shoving crowd to clear a path for her.

Ping causes commotion

Cries of "Susan, Susan" broke from the crowd.

The women among the demonstrators had other reasons to squeal—actors Richard Gomez and Ricky Davao also came to add glamour to the event.

The appearance of opposition Sen. Panfilo "Ping" Lacson also caused a commotion. Women rushed forward, wanting their pictures taken with him.

Office workers from Makati, several of whom attended the rally, whipped out their cameras to shoot the opposition leader.

"Idol!" the menfolk cried out.

Show biz has its role

"I think it's positive because it brings attention to issues," Bayan-Muna Rep. Teddy Casiño said.

Other movie stars in the rally were Rudy Fernandez, Tirso Cruz III and Rez Cortez.

The gathering turned into a full-scale rock concert as the night wore on, with Agaw Agimat, one of the country's more popular alternative rock bands, entertaining the crowd, who included many young people.

Earlier, commotion broke out at the intersection of Paseo de Roxas and De la Rosa streets. The melee occurred when someone began handing out CDs of the controversial alleged wiretapped conversation between Ms Arroyo and Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano supposedly dealing with fraud in last year's elections.

Strange bedfellows

Among the first people who made a grab for the CDs were Makati policemen.

Marcos' daughter, Imee, now a congresswoman, was in the crowd of strange bedfellows. So were Agapito Aquino, now also a congressman and Mayor JV Ejercito, son of former President Joseph Estrada.

For some, money was the driving force for attendance.

Rep. Antonio V. Cuenco, an administration supporter, said the Makati affair was so far "the best rally money can buy." He said P100 was being offered in Metro Manila. To those from Bicol, up to P1,000 was dangled.

Datu Amerol Gulam-Ambiong, president of the National Muslim Peace and Order Council, said his members were paid P200 each to go to Makati.

"Most of them had no jobs and just wanted the money to put food on the table," he said.

Normally, business thrives where people throng. Apparently not in Makati yesterday.

Street hawkers from neighboring cities realized this when they went to the country's business center to ply their trade.

Not buying

"Business wasn't good," sunburned peanut vendor Amor Ilas, from Pasay City, told the INQUIRER.

She not only came to sell peanuts but also to join the clamor for the President's resignation.

"The trouble is people are so hard up these days that not too many of them are buying," said Nida Evera, a cigarette vendor from Bulacan.

Vendor Primo Dubila had the same glum experience. Not too many came to buy his ice cream.

Anacel Oligano, 25, walked all the way from Pasay to sell her corn cobs, but "the rallyists had brought with them their own food."

But business boomed at least for one afternoon for bottled water vendor Jason Ferrer, from Pasig. Normally earning P200 a day, Ferrer said he expected to take home more than P500.

Picnic

A strip in the business district became a picnic ground for rallyists, who came with their "baon." Some of them sprawled on the sidewalk and ate their lunch pack of fish, boiled egg and rice.

Elsewhere, it was business as usual.

"There was no difference at all. The number of our customers remained the same," the manager of a famous Makati fast-food chain said, requesting anonymity.

She also said many people trooped to her store for another reason. They wanted to use the toilet.

Among Makati workers, reaction was mixed.

A bank employee, who declined to give her name, told the INQUIRER that the rally was really a hassle. "We have to walk because vehicles are not allowed in the area."

Why Makati?

Both public and private vehicles were barred from plying Makati Avenue yesterday.

"Why did they have to do it here? Why not in some other place?" she asked.

Jena Puda, also a bank employee, said the rally caused so much traffic. She was worried about getting home. She also told the INQUIRER that there was a decrease in the number of their clients yesterday.

Some passersby wore irritated looks on their faces, complaining about the streets that were closed from motorists and blocked by rallyists.

Many young professionals, like Jonathan Paguntalan, left their offices even if it was not break time.

Be not afraid

"We are here to observe because somehow this affects the finance sector. We are also concerned with our country," said Paguntalan, who works with an accounting firm.

Asked whether he was joining the protesters in their call for the resignation of Ms Arroyo, Paguntalan said he had yet to decide on this. But a sticker that said, "Be not afraid," was on his shirt.

He came to the rally with at least six officemates. He said their bosses did not go against their decision to attend the rally.

By the time the protesters began drifting away, the usual spotless Ayala Avenue had been inundated by trash and confetti dropped by a helicopter. *With a report from Margaux C. Ortiz*

This dog went to Ayala

EVEN this dog seemed to have made a stand.

Woofer, a 5-year-old black mongrel, was among thousands of Filipinos who flocked to Ayala Avenue in Makati yesterday to demand President Macapagal-Arroyo's resignation.

The dog from Montalban, Rizal, was brought to the rally by owner Allen Sarmiento of the Union of the Masses for Democracy and Justice.

The pair was spotted by the INQUIRER walking along Paseo de Roxas. They had been trotting around Makati since 8:30 a.m., or six hours before the actual rally began.

Hanging from Woofer's mouth was a sign in Filipino which read: "Fake government, liar, cheat. Have pity on the people. Resign you all."

"He has been to a lot of rallies," Sarmiento said. He added that Woofer attended its first rally during the "Edsa III" protests in 2001. He called Woofer the "Dog of the Nation."

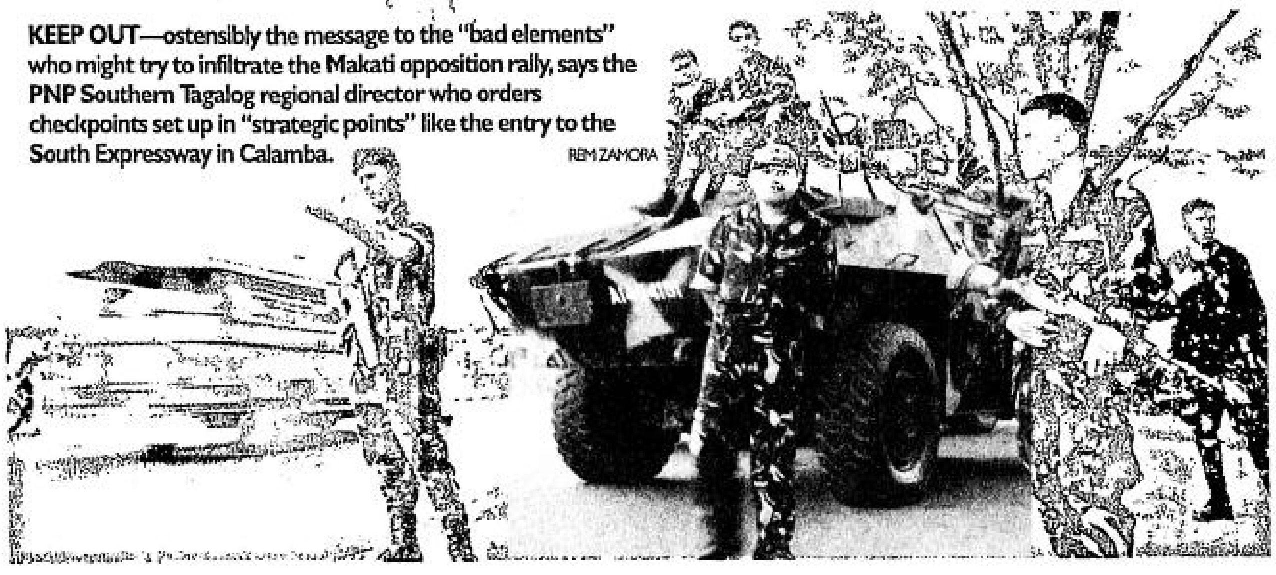
Sarmiento said that next time, he would bring his pet pig. *Jocelyn R. Uy*

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

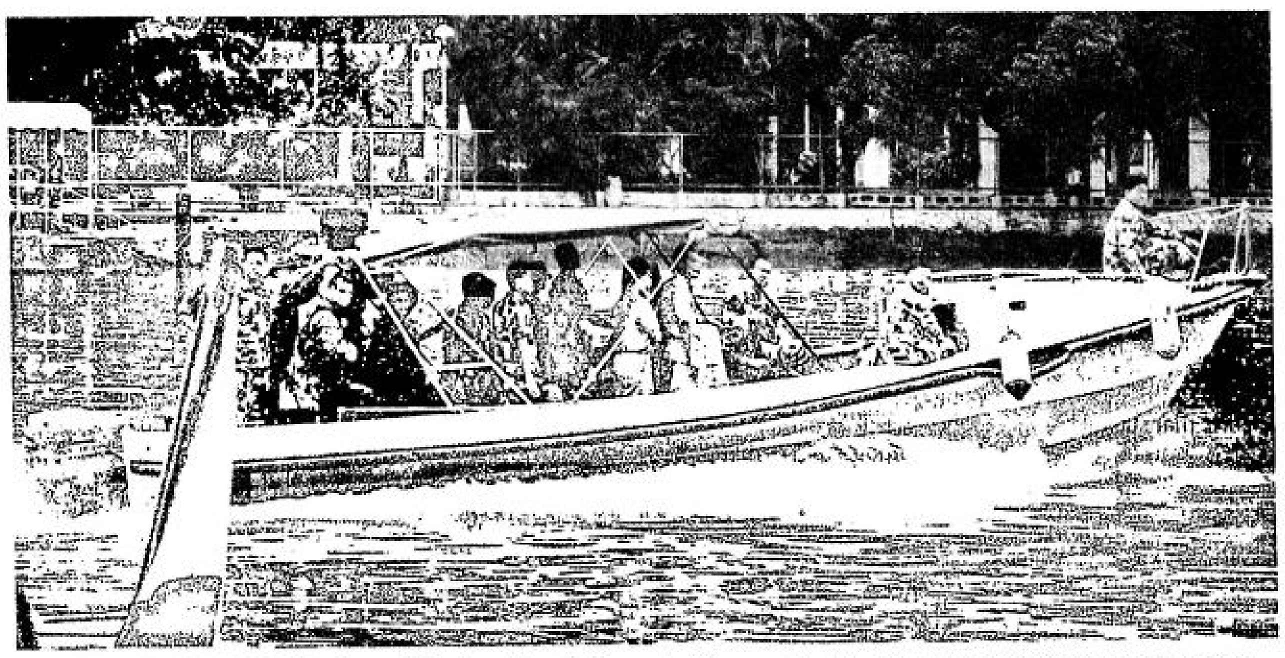
GLIMPSES, ELLIPSES, LAPSES

IRRESISTIBLE FORCE. The most-awaited, most-admired personality at the Makati rally, Susan Roces, and suddenly, the demonstrators unabashedly display demonstrations of their affection toward the widow of FPJ. JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

IN YOUR FACE protest (left) with a **GMA** mask (right) complete with the presidential mole. REM ZAMORA/REUTERS



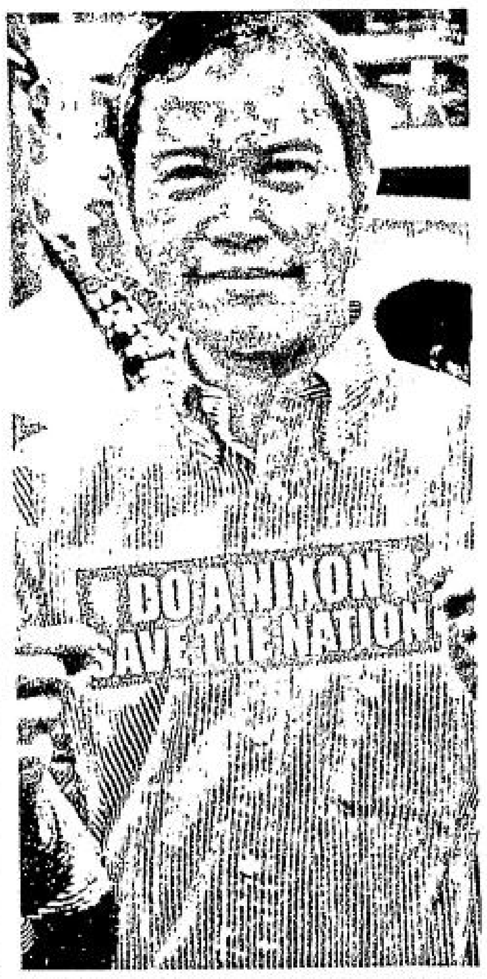
KEEP OUT—ostensibly the message to the "bad elements" who might try to infiltrate the Makati opposition rally, says the PNP Southern Tagalog regional director who orders checkpoints set up in "strategic points" like the entry to the South Expressway in Calamba. REM ZAMORA



SECURING THE PASIG. Members of the Presidential Security Group patrol the Pasig River within the perimeter of Malacanang. EDWIN BACASMAS

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

IT'S A FIRST for Sen. Ping Lacson to join a protest rally but he did not address the crowd as politicians were not allowed to.



THE MEDIUM is the message. Witness in the House probe of the Hello-Garci tapes, Allan Paguia, is not just a face in the crowd. REM ZAMORA

FULL ALERT. The military and the police are ready to go to battle amid warnings of terror attacks and a swirl of coup rumors, as usual. Soldiers at Camp Aguinaldo stand by as protesters start massing in Makati. RYAN LIM

TIME
"THE LORD PUT ME HERE"
STEP DOWN!

TIME is bastardized by the angry throngs, the size of which is being reportedly watched by investors as a barometer of President Arroyo's fate. REM ZAMORA

IMMOVABLE FORCE. President Arroyo gets the approval and applause of the Laguna Local Government Executives, only the latest batch to come to the aid of the embattled President. Which encourages her to hang tough. EDWIN BACASMAS

Brothers ambushed in Valenzuela; 1 dead

PEOPLE OF THE TRACKS
Residents of a shanty town stand perilously close to a speeding train in Manila.

AFP

By Nancy C. Carvajal

A BUSINESSMAN was killed while his brother was wounded in an ambush in Valenzuela City Tuesday night.

Police identified the victims as Shirmon Li Choa, 36, and his older brother Shirchuang, 44, of La Granada Mansion, Sabino Padilla Street, Sta. Cruz, Manila.

City police chief Supt. Billy Beltran said the brothers were on their way home from their factory, Century Glass Inc., at about 9:30 p.m. when four unidentified men blocked their car outside the gate of the Cabral Industrial Park in Barangay Lawang Bato, Valenzuela.

The suspects immediately fired at the car, hitting the brothers in different parts of the body, police said.

The younger Choa, who was driving the car, lost control of the wheel. The vehicle then hit a lamp post.

The brothers were brought to the MCU Medical Center ral Hospital where Shirmon was declared dead on arrival.

Shirchuang, on the other hand, is now in a stable c ondition and was moved to another hospital.

"We can't say if the incident was a result of a labor dispute or a case of attempted kidnapping," said Beltran, in response to questions from reporters as to the possible motive behind the shooting.

Recovered from the scene of the crime were 14 used shells of a caliber .45 and two deformed slugs of unknown caliber.

Artist's sketch

According to the police official, the family of the victims have requested that investigators talk to them after Shirmon's burial.

Beltran added that an artist's sketch of the gunmen based on descriptions provided by several witnesses would be released soon.

Gun in bar slay still a puzzler

By Margaux C. Ortiz

THE DEPARTMENT of Justice (DOJ) has required the Makati police to submit a certification from their Firearms and Explosives Division regarding the ownership of the gun used in shooting to death television director Louis Santiago in an upscale Makati bar last month.

The DOJ also requested the police to provide autopsy and ballistics reports related to the crime, according to National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) special investigator Albert Gaerlan.

At the same time, the DOJ ordered the NBI to conduct a further investigation on the personalities involved in the incident, he added.

Gaerlan said the lawyer of Marine Maj. Robert Velasco, whose Glock .357 was allegedly used in the shooting incident, told the NBI that they could prove his client was in Mindanao when the shooting took place.

The NBI agent, however, said that confessed gunman Oliver Jameiro refused to surrender the firearm used in the shooting.

"His lawyer said there is a proper time and forum for that," Gaerlan said.

Other witnesses

Gaerlan added that they are looking at other witnesses, apart from Jameiro's friend Charito Angeles, who could provide more information regarding the crime.

Jameiro had revealed that Angeles handed him the gun during a fray at the parking lot of the Venezia (V-bar) in Makati.

Apart from Santiago, six others were wounded in the June 8 incident.

See-through VIP rooms for Marikina

PRIVATE rooms in Marikina City night spots will no longer be that private with the enactment of a new ordinance.

The private rooms, also called VIP rooms, are rented out to customers who want a place separate from the main hall and the other customers.

The ordinance requires night spots to use transparent glass walls for the rooms. Doors , too, should have no locks. Customers who want to avail of these exclusive rooms will also have to register their names.

The ordinance was in response to reports that such rooms were being used for prostitution. *Edson C. Tandoc*

Binay political arch foe revives plunder cases

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

JUST as Makati City Mayor Jejomar Binay was busy in the big anti-Arroyo rally in his city, a small antigraft group yesterday revived the plunder cases it had filed against him and his wife.

"Politicians mired in corruption cases do not have the moral right to complain, much less shout for the removal of President Macapagal-Arroyo," group convenor Roberto Brillante said.

As president of the United Opposition, Binay has joined calls for Ms Arroyo's resignation.

Using a Commission on Audit report, Brillante's Campaign for Public Accountability filed plunder cases against Binay and his wife in 2003.

The group accused the couple of involvement in alleged anomalous transactions costing the city P622 million. Among the supposed anomalies are the buying of overpriced equipment for the Ospital ng Makati and furniture for City Hall.

Two days ago, the group filed an urgent motion to the Office of the Ombudsman to finally resolve its complaints.

"This is the most opportune time to bring this up because people are clamoring for change. The change in leadership should be for the better, not for the worse," Brillantes said.

A traitor is a traitor is a traitor

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

OH, DINKY, how could you!

You were a spoiled brat in President Macapagal-Arroyo's administration because she gave you everything you wanted, and yet now you tell people your former boss is a no-good leader.

After breaking the heart of your former boss by resigning and calling for her resignation, you now tell the public you will reveal the "dark secrets" of the administration that you once served.

Oh, Dinky, how could you do that?

Upon your request, the President placed the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) at your disposal at the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

In short, the enormous funds at the PCSO were at your disposal. No President before GMA did that to the DSWD.

Ms Arroyo was very accommodating to you, too accommodating to a fault.

When she planned to replace you with newly-elected Vice President Noli de Castro, you threw a temper tantrum and shed a river of tears.

GMA had to get back the position she offered to De Castro and embarrassed herself doing that in order to please you and your colleagues in the uncivil society. I say "uncivil" because most of you are spoiled ingrates.

The unkindest cut of all was that days before you joined some people in calling for GMA to resign, you were in Malacañang with fellow Cabinet members serenading the President with the song, "Let's hold on together."

And yet, while singing that song of unity, you were already planning to stab your boss in the back.

"Et tu Brute (You, too, Brutus)?" were Julius Caesar's last words. You were like Brutus, Dinky.

If you think the President committed a grave sin by talking to Comelec Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano, you could just have resigned and shut up.

People would have admired you had you just kept quiet.

So, let's grant (but without admitting) the President erred in talking to Garcillano, must you join the mob in cutting the hand that once fed you, Dinky Soliman?

* * *

Some people laugh at Justice Secretary Raul Gonzales for supposedly kowtowing to GMA in this time of crisis.

But that's what is expected of a subordinate—stand by his or her boss when the going gets rough.

Which would you rather have for a subordinate, a Dinky or a Raul?

* * *

In the early days of the Cory Aquino presidency, military officers who stood by deposed President Marcos up to the last hour were harassed no end by the victors who strutted like peacocks.

One such harassed and oppressed officer was Col. Arsenio Tecson (Philippine Military Academy Class 1970) who was a member of Marcos' Presidential Security Command (PSC).

Tecson told me once that the Aquino administration didn't know how to appreciate loyalty. Even if he and his fellow Marcos boys were on the other side, Tecson said, they should be admired because they stood by their boss to the very end.

"Look, Mon, those guys who betrayed their commander-in-chief Marcos might soon betray the present commander-in-chief (Cory Aquino)," Tecson said.

Tecson's words were prophetic. Weren't there six coup attempts against President Cory led by the same military officers who betrayed Marcos?

So, Dinky, who can trust you now and your fellow conspirators after what you did to your former boss?

If you could stab GMA in the back, there's a big possibility you would do the same thing to your future boss.

A traitor is a traitor is a traitor.

Dont miss the ultimate one-stop destination for all your corporate needs!

Corporate World 2005 incorporating

CORPORATE GIVEAWAYS 2005
18th Buyers' Show on Business Gifts, Premiums, Promotional Ideas, Advertising Specialties & Incentives

&

CORPORATE SOLUTIONS 2005
2nd Trade Show on Marketing Support Services, Business Solutions, Office Equipment and Supplies, Furniture & Interiors

July 14-16, 2005 | World Trade Center Metro Manila
Exhibit Hours: 10:00am - 7:00pm

FEATURING...
- Tens of thousands of corporate giveaways and premiums to fit any budget size
- New trends in marketing & promo services
- The latest office machines & equipment including the world's fastest color printer
- BLIMS Office World's corporate showcase
- CHRISTMAS PAVILION with fabulous décor concepts for your establishments
- Indoor designer garden ideas for greening your offices by PIDO
- CORPORATE ELAN, a fashion show of the hottest business attire and uniforms for men & women by corporate image maker Digna Rosales in cooperation with The Leather Collection on July 14, at 5:00 pm in Hall A

ADMISSION IS FREE! Just register at the Organizer's Counter.
Students will be allowed entry on Saturday, July 16, 2005.
Children below seven (7) will not be allowed inside the exhibit area.

A project of WORLDEXCO in cooperation with infocom

GLOBAL DESTINY BusinessWorld INQUIRER Digna Rosales COMPUTERWORLD ENTERPRISE SIGNMEDIA DIGITAL PRINTING

For inquiries contact WORLDEXCO, INC.
Unit 1202 Sunset View Towers, 2230 Roxas Blvd., Pasay City 1300
Tel: 891.8638 / 834.7408 Fax: 834.0608 Email: mktg@worldexco.com

The most interesting people and personalities leave their mark in the pages of the Sunday Inquirer Magazine
NOW in broadsheet format!
sunday INQUIRER magazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

METRO
E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Ester G. Dipasupil

EZ2
28 14

SUERTRES
6 6 3

FOUR DIGIT
0 7 9 1
(In exact order)

Text us your feedback:
inquirer met name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

MEGALOTTO 6/45
2 13 22 32 38 45
₱23,534,145.60

Beauty doctors of the stars face BIR raps

MANNY and Pie Calayan. Their lawyer says the beauty specialists had already complied with the BIR request.

But Calayan lawyer denies any wrongdoing

By DJ Yap

THE TAX man cometh for beauty experts Manuel and Rosario "Pie" Calayan.

The husband-and-wife team of cosmetic doctors was charged with defying a subpoena requiring them to submit their accounting books to the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

But their lawyer said the Calayans, who are known for their work with movie and television personalities, already fulfilled their tax dues and had submitted all the documents asked of them.

The BIR filed yesterday a complaint against the couple in the Quezon City prosecutor for violations of Section 266 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997.

Four dates

According to the complaint, the tax agency requested the Calayans to present their books on Feb. 17, March 1, March 7 and April 6, but they failed to do so.

This prompted the agency to issue a subpoena duces tecum dated May 30, which set the deadline for compliance on June 14, said BIR lawyers Mario Cruz and Jose Catindig in their joint-affidavit.

On June 10, the summons was received by the Calayans, who hold clinic at the Calayan Surgicenter at Medical Plaza in Makati City.

The Calayans requested an extension of the deadline to the 17th through their lawyer, Roberto Rodriguez, but the BIR lawyers said the couple never appeared to present the requested documents.

Reached by the INQUIRER, Calayan counsel Maricel Pascual-Lopez, however, said her clients presented official receipts and documents on March 7, April 21, April 28 and May 27. She said the documents were stamped "received" by the BIR during an in-house audit by the tax agency.

Nothing more to submit

Lopez maintained that on June 17, the Calayans had already complied with the subpoena and that there was no more basis for a subpoena.

Failure to obey a summons is punishable by up to two years imprisonment and a fine of up to P10,000.

The Calayans host a segment on GMA 7's morning show "Unang Hirit" called "Liga ng Kagandahan" with Fanny Serrano.

Their rival, beauty doctor Vicki Belo, also hosts a beauty segment on ABS-CBN's "Magandang Umaga Bayan."

It was Manuel's liposuction procedure on former TV talk show host Rosanna Roces that catapulted him and his dermatologist wife Pie to show biz fame.

The Calayans have been endorsed by popular show biz celebrities like Angel Locsin, Pia Guanio, Sunshine Cruz, Ethel Booba and Jen Rosendahl. *With Marinel R. Cruz*

up to
50% off
great selections
Clearance sale
July 1-31
infants accessories
home furnishings
fashion accessories
toys
shoes bags luggage
hardware
apparel
SM
DEPARTMENT STORE

We've got it all for you!

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3627, Series of 2005.

QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PINAS • BACOOR
FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • MANDURRIAO • CEBU • DAVAO • CAGAYAN DE ORO • BICUTAN
LUCENA • BAGUIO • MARILAO • DASMARINAS • BATANGAS • DELGADO • SAN LAZARO

KIA
"Power to Surprise"
K2700
SORENTO 4x4
picanto
SEDONA
PREGIO GS

MAS MATIPIDIMAS MALAKI! MAS MATIBAY!
Panoramic • Aluminum Van • Dropside

"CAR OF THE YEAR 2004"
THE 4X4 MAGAZINE - UK
CRDI TURBO INTERCOOLER

ELIMINATES GAS PAINS!

"THE AFFORDABLE MINIVAN"
★★★★★ RATING U.S.- N.H.T.S.A.

"SUPER DELUXE FAMILY VAN"
12 Seater Diesel Engine

KIA MANDALUYONG
#79 EDSA Mandaluyong City
Tels.: 531-4631 to 33; 531-1949; 531-4424 • Fax: 531-4380

KIA MAKATI
La Fuerza Plaza
2241 Pasong Tamo St., Makati City
Tels.: 817-8416; 817-8417; 817-8406
Telefax: 817-8421

KIA LAS PIÑAS
(In front of SM Southmall)
Tels.: 801-7656; 801-7668; 802-1024; 806-2235 • Telefax: 806-2230

SPORTS

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Hidayat, Lin show two sides of a continent

By Marc Anthony Reyes

TEAM Asia has two faces: Taufik Hidayat, the flashy crowd-darling, and Lin Dan, the steel-nerved lethal weapon.

About the only thing the two share—aside from the side of the court they're on in the MVP Cup: Asia vs Europe badminton challenge—is a long-standing rivalry.

"It's a great thing to be playing together (with Lin), this time for Asia," said the 23-year-old Hidayat, who just recently bowed to Lin in the Sudirman Cup singles finals in Jakarta.

With his fancy shots and uncanny ability to make placement shots off opponents' smashes, it wasn't too surprising why Hidayat, the reigning Olympic champion and world No. 8, has endeared himself to the Filipino crowd.

"I love this country [because] this is where I won my first title (1997 Asian juniors championships)," said the Indonesian, who overcame a pulled abdominal muscle to crush Denmark's Anders Boesen, 15-13, 15-4, Tuesday night.

Lin, the 21-year-old Thomas Cup and world champion, swears the Philippines is also close to his heart. I was also in Manila where he, playing as a junior, upset Hidayat four years ago.

Still, it's a rare treat to have two of the most recognizable badminton stars, rivals at that, playing as teammates for a change.

"That makes this tournament special," said team manager Datuk Punch Gunalan. "We get to pool together the region's vast talent resource and put them on display on the world stage."

CHINA'S World No. 1 Lin Dan rises for a smash against Germany's Bjoern Joppien. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Europe strikes back with 2 wins

By Marc Anthony Reyes

JUST when a rout was on the cards, Team Europe struck back through Pi Hongyang of France and the pair of Mia Audina Tjiptawan and Gail Emms last night to halt the Asian juggernaut and defer decision in the MVP Cup: Asia vs Europe badminton challenge at the PhilSports Arena.

Staring at a 5-0 Team Asia lead after Lin Dan's masterful 15-2, 15-3 demolition of Germany's Bjoern Joppien in last night's first match, the China-born Pi dismantled South Korea's Seo Yoon Hee, 11-4, 11-3, to finally put Europe on the scoreboard.

Audina and Emms then pegged the score at 5-4 going into the final day with a 15-12, 15-8 triumph over Thais Saralee Thungthongkam and Sathinee Chankrachangwong in the nightcap.

Every win in today's matches are worth three points.

Pi, who migrated to France two years ago, unleashed all the tricks up her sleeves to dispose of Hee, who upset her in the first round of the Athens Olympics last year.

"I think I played way better tonight and forced her to run all game long," said the 26-year-old Pi, who is ranked next only to No. 1 Xie Xingfang and Zhang Ning, both of China, in the world.

Pi also caught Hee off-form as the 21-year-old Korean star was sick for the past three days and only ate soft food.

World No. 1 Lin, on the other hand, was his usual self, devoid of flair as he clinically dispatched Joppien.

"Everywhere in the world, I play by giving my 100 percent," said Lin, who rushed to a 10-1 lead in the first set.

"I tried probing his weakness and [I couldn't] find any tonight," said Joppien of the 21-year-old Lin, who kept him on his feet with deceptive drop shots from the net and from the baseline.

GAMES TODAY
7 p.m.—Mixed doubles (*N. Robertson-G. Emms vs K. Asuncion-K. Asuncion*)
8:30 p.m.— 3rd men's singles (*Captain's choice*)
10 p.m.— 3rd women's singles (*Captain's choice*)

EUROPE/ A26

Asuncion siblings undaunted by world's best pair

AS WORKERS set up the PhilSports arena right after lunch yesterday for the night's triple bill, siblings Kennie and Kennievic Asuncion were sweating it out on the court against two Indonesian guys.

They exchanged furious smashes, polished their net game and tried out the strategy they plan to use against Britain's Nathan Robertson and Gail Emms in today's mixed doubles match.

The Filipinos, ranked 24th in the world, are up against the undisputed No. 1 pair in what many are predicting to be a monumental massacre.

Kennievic, 25, begged to disagree.

"Everybody, when they go into the court, whoever they face, has a 50-50 chance," he said.

That frame of mind should be a big help for the Asuncions come game time.

The match they are playing are crucial for Team Asia because by then, the score awarded per won game is three points.

The Asuncions lost, 15-7, 15-7, the only time they faced the English pair in the second round of the 2003 Korean Open, which offered berths to the Athens Olympics. *Marc Anthony Reyes*

Armstrong back in command A27

PATENTED
SHARK ACCESSORIES
FOR ISUZU D-MAX
ABSOLUTELY NO-HOLES BORED INSTALLATION!
BUMPER OVERIDER
NEW OVERLAP FLAP FOR ADDED DIRT PROTECTION
SIDE PROTECTOR
OVAL STEPTUBE With built-in turning lights
OFF ROAD STEPBOARD
SURESTEP 1011A EDSA, VETERAN'S VILLAGE, PROJ. 7, QUEZON CITY TEL. 416-3667 / 372-3646
We deliver to or install at your home or office (Metro Manila Only)

Stop Hair Loss
And
"My falling hair problem is over and there's real improvement in my hair's condition!"
- Ferdie Agustin, Business Executive
"With Svenson's treatments, my hair became thicker. I could actually feel the difference!"
- Benedict Goslaco, Marketing Director
Get Thicker Hair!
Put an end to your hair-loss problems and prevent impending baldness at **Svenson International.** The **Tricho-DHT Inhibitor** treatment is proven to effectively counteract Dihydrotestosterone (DHT), the main cause of hair loss.
Discover what Svenson can do for your hair loss and baldness problems. Call now!
Svenson INTERNATIONAL
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD
CALL 892-HAIR (4247)
MAKATI 15/F GT Tower
TOMAS MORATO 3/F CKB Center
BINONDO 11/F Federal Tower Bldg.
ALABANG 4/F Citibank-Frabelle Bldg.
CEBU TEL: 234-0851 7/F Keppel Centre

www.lacoste.com
Take home a crocodile this weekend!
LACOSTE FOOTWEAR SALE
July 14-17, 2005
LACOSTE FOOTWEAR
• SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL, TEL. NO. 635-0744 • GLORIETTA 3, TEL. NO. 867-4077 • ROBINSONS PLACE MANILA, TEL. NO. 522-7778 • THE POWER PLANT MALL, TEL. NO. 898-0933
• THE PODIUM, TEL. NO. 633-8226 • SM CITY DAVAO, TEL. NO. (082) 297-2510 • THE GATEWAY MALL, TEL. NO. 912-5726 • ROBINSONS GALLERIA, TEL. 638-8020
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3985, Series of 2005.

Fiery Najorda lifts Stags over Lions

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE SAN Sebastian Stags leaned on the dominant performance of Leo Najorda to forge a 77-74 triumph over the luckless San Beda Red Lions in the NCAA basketball tournament yesterday at the Cuneta Astrodome.

Najorda, the 2003 Most Valuable Player, fired 27 points and grabbed eight rebounds to lead the Stags to their second straight win.

"I have no problem with Najorda," said coach Turo Valenzona of his 6-foot-4 forward. "He plays good offense and defense, he rebounds.

In the second game, the Perpetual Help Altas creamed the Jose Rizal U Bombers, 59-42, for a 1-5 card.

Fritz Bauzon and Khiel Misa spearheaded the Altas' charge with a combined 36 points.

The multi-titled Stags, who have been struggling with a young lineup, improved their record to 2-3.

The Lions and the Bombers skidded to their fifth straight loss.

In junior play, Raphael Reyes buried a buzzer-beating jumper as the Staglets stunned the Cubs, 67-65. The defending champions absorbed their first loss in four games.

The varsity scores:

Second game

SSC 77—Najorda 27, Vicente 12, Viray 12, Santos 8, Lindaya 7, Aquino 6, Malig 3, Delgado 2, Ballesteros 0, Aguilar 0, Sagad 0.

SAN BEDA 74—Aljamal 17, Paterno 15, Gamalinda 9, Menor 9, Tecson 6, Cruz 4, Tirona 3, Baldivia 3, Arbole 2, Taganas 0, Antonio 0, Maggay 0.

Quarters: 16-20, 40-41, 61-56, 77-74.

Third game

PERPETUAL 59—Bauzon 19, Misa 17, Balboa 8, Joe 6, Apor 4, Racho 3, Refuerzo 2, Mendoza 0, Salanga 0, Manalang 0.

JRU 42—Mañiego 8, Dedicatoria 7, Domancas 6, Tala 4, Jorge 4, Sena 4, Yuzon 4, Golena 3, Fenequito 2, Natividad 0, San Luis 0, Reyes 0, Japson 0.

Quarters: 18-13, 32-22, 50-33, 59-42.

Pumaren siblings out for validation

NOW that the high of blasting arch rival Ateneo has subsided, La Salle coach Franz Pumaren is quick to put things back in perspective.

"It's still a long way for us," said Pumaren, whose defending champion Archers routed the Eagles, 78-60, last Sunday.

"I don't think we're that great or we're that invincible. We just played good and they played bad."

It's all business again when the Archers seek their second straight win against the University of the Philippines at 4 p.m. today in the UAAP basketball tournament at the Blue Eagle Gym in Ateneo.

While Franz Pumaren is looking to validate La Salle's new strength, younger brother Dindo is out to cement the University of the East's lofty preseason billing when it vies for its first win against the National U at 2 p.m. The Warriors bowed to the FEU Tamaraws, 81-66, last Saturday. *Jasmine W. Payo*

GAMES TODAY
(*Blue Eagle Gym*)
10 a.m.—UE vs NU (Jrs)
12 p.m.—UP vs La Salle (Jrs)
2 p.m.—UE vs NU
4 p.m.—UP vs La Salle

Missing the old Fiba

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

THE BAP took a gamble and it lost.

That is all there was to it.

I am referring to the basketball team sent to Kuala Lumpur a while back by the Basketball Association of the Philippines (BAP) purportedly to compete in the Southeast Asia Basketball Association (Seaba) tournament.

Defiant till the end, the BAP brushed aside its expulsion from the country's Olympic movement and, woefully, hauled off a squad posthaste for that ill-fated mission to Kuala Lumpur.

I commiserate with the coaching staff and the players of that team. They'd been had.

The National Basketball Conference (NBC) got burned bankrolling the fare expenses, among others, of the members of the team.

As often said many times already, good intentions do not always produce good results. The NBC had the right move but for the wrong reason. Good deeds could sometimes backfire. I hope the NBC learned a lesson or two there.

As we all know, the BAP-backed RP team, even when it was already in Kuala Lumpur ready to play, was barred by the Fiba from playing in the Seaba. Fiba is the world governing body in basketball that annually sanctions the holding of the Seaba event.

It didn't matter that the Philippines was the defending champion.

What the Fiba took into account—quite correctly—before shooing away the BAP-RP quintet out of Kuala Lumpur was the fact that the BAP was no longer recognized as a POC member.

Further, adopting a semblance of impartiality, the Fiba likewise rejected a different team still to be sent to Kuala Lumpur by the POC to join the Seaba, an event won back-to-back by the Philippines the last two times it was staged.

Fiba's move to also reject the POC request allowing its handpicked crew to play in the Seaba event, I couldn't quite agree.

In so doing, Fiba had convicted the POC before Fiba could even begin its so-called inquiry into the expulsion of the BAP.

Guilty before trial.

That smacked of arbitrariness.

The prudent thing to do would have been for Fiba to allow the POC-sponsored team to play in the Seaba and next execute its plan to bring the BAP case to the court of arbitration of the IOC.

By suspending Philippine participation in a Fiba-sanctioned event—the Philippines being a member of good standing in the International Olympic Committee—Fiba inflicted a black eye not only on the sport itself but also on world sports as well.

Cry, Mt. Olympus. Fair play, if not sportsmanship, is dead.

With that Fiba decision, wasn't that an indirect way of meddling in the internal affairs of a country?

Fiba should have respected the POC decision to expel the BAP because, for Chrissakes, the general assembly of national sports association had voted 33-2 in favor of ousting the BAP.

The POC observed and exhausted all means within the purview of its Charter in implementing the process and was mandated by law to enforce the rule of the majority in striking the BAP off the country's Olympic roster.

I mean, in effect, what the Fiba is trying to question was the decision of 33 of 35 respected national leaders banishing the BAP from the face of the Earth. I can't buy that.

Fine, the Fiba can look into the circumstances behind the BAP expulsion. It has every right in the world to play fool, act stupid.

But to suspend Philippine basketball from further participating in Fiba-sanctioned events while Fiba's case has yet to be officially presented before the IOC arbitration committee is like putting the horse before the carriage.

The fault of one shouldn't be the fault of all.

Seemingly, the Fiba doesn't think that way. Sad.

In any controversy, punish not one but everybody. Seemingly, the present Fiba thinks that way. Pathetic.

I miss the wisdom of Boris Stankovic, the Fiba secretary general when Fiba was *still* the Fiba: Objective, logical and rationale.

Europe . . .

From page A25

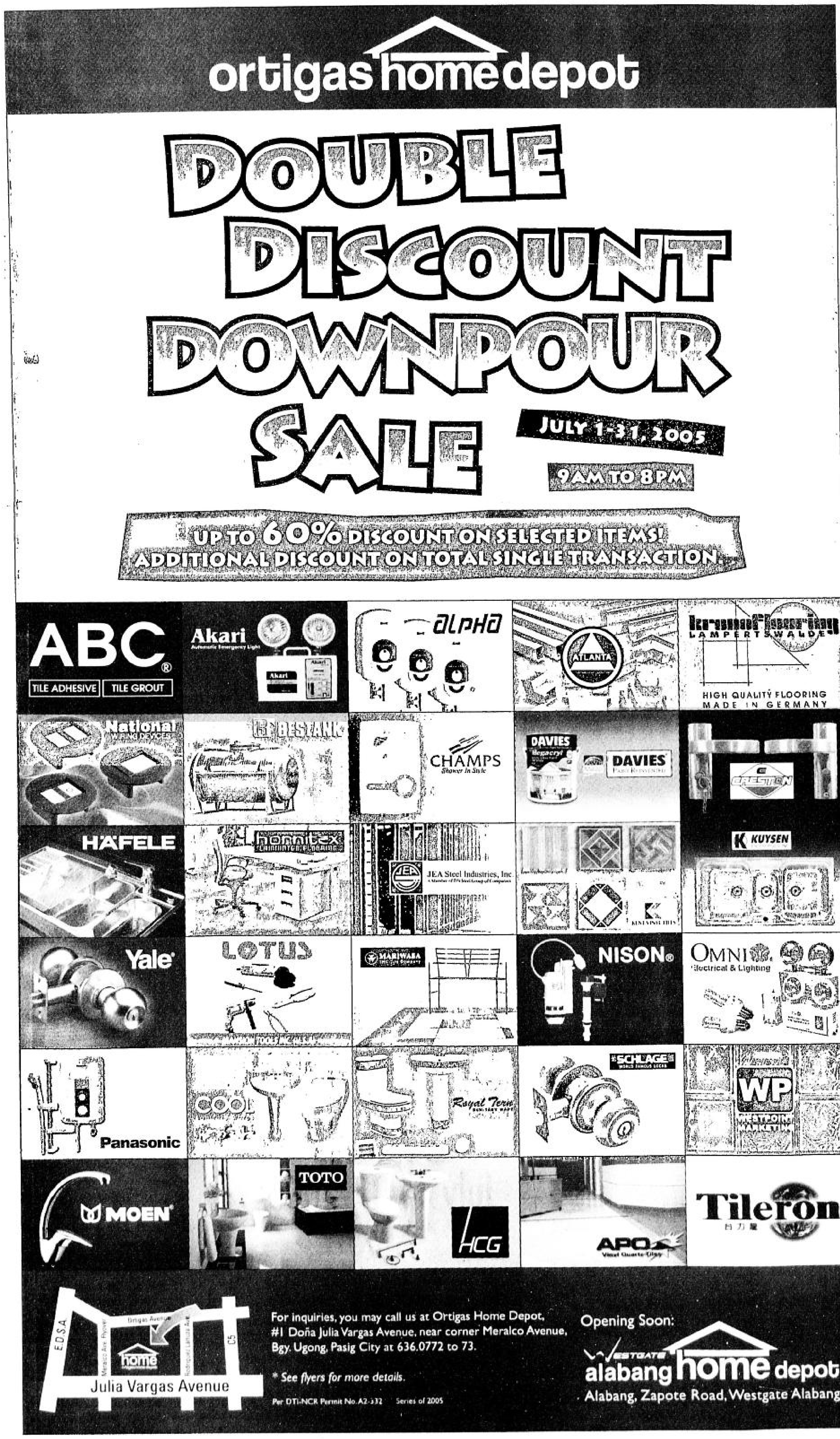
Though known more for his substance than style, Lin emulated Indonesian rival Taufik Hidayat. He caught the crowd's fancy by flicking a return behind his neck that gave him an 11-2 lead. He then hit a smash that tipped the net, for which he apologized to his 6-foot-2 German foe.

"It's fun to play here because people obviously follow the game," said Joppien, the world No. 17 who is still recovering from a viral disease.

The German scored just two winners in the match as he failed to counter Lin's crisp forehands to his backhand.

Earlier in the Celebrity Match, the pair of Philippine Daily Inquirer president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez and movie actor Diether Ocampo downed TV personalities Dyan Castillejo and Troy Montero, 15-10, 15-5.

A former national team member, Romualdez steered her partnership through a close first set where they trailed, 7-8, before scoring seven straight points to put the set away.



ortigas home depot
DOUBLE DISCOUNT DOWNPOUR SALE
JULY 1-31, 2005
9AM TO 8PM
UP TO 60% DISCOUNT ON SELECTED ITEMS!
ADDITIONAL DISCOUNT ON TOTAL SINGLE TRANSACTION

For inquiries, you may call us at Ortigas Home Depot, #1 Doña Julia Vargas Avenue, near corner Meralco Avenue, Bgy. Ugong, Pasig City at 636.0772 to 73.
* See flyers for more details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A2-332 Series of 2005
Opening Soon:
Westgate alabang home depot
Alabang, Zapote Road, Westgate Alabang

BRITISH OPEN

Signs point to Tiger as red-hot favorite

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland—The omens suggest: Tiger Woods is the red-hot favorite for this week's British Open.

The 29-year-old American coasted to victory by eight shots the last time the championship was staged at the home of golf and has made a habit of shining in the majors whenever Jack Nicklaus has decided to take a final bow.

Nicklaus, who lifted the Claret Jug three times between 1966 and 1978, will make his final Open appearance at St. Andrews next week and Woods plans to take full advantage.

"It's been good, every time he's retired," Woods said with a broad smile at the Old Course.

"I wish he'd keep retiring. I won at Valhalla (the 2000 US PGA Championship) and at Pebble Beach (the 2000 US Open), and then here (in 2000). And then Augusta (National for the US Masters) this year.

The 65-year-old Nicklaus bade farewell to the Masters, a tournament he won a record six times, in April after missing the cut by five strokes.

Two days later, Woods clinched his fourth green jacket.

When Woods triumphed at St Andrews in 2000, he famously avoided each of the 112 pot bunkers at the Old Course on his way to a record 19-under-par total of 269.

Reuters

Armstrong bares fangs

Destroys main rivals in first major Tour climb

COURCHEVEL, France—Only three riders stuck with Lance Armstrong as he reclaimed the Tour de France leader's yellow jersey with a dominant showing in the Alps—none of them were his main rivals.

The six-time Tour champion beat Alexandre Vinokourov, Jan Ullrich and Andreas Kloeden on Tuesday's 10th stage, placing second narrowly behind Spanish rider Alejandro Valverde, who won the 177.5-kilometer (110.3-mile) trek up to the ski resort of Courchevel in a sprint to the line.

Armstrong sees Valverde as the "future of cycling"—which considering the American is retiring at the end of this year's race means he does not consider him an immediate threat to his bid for a seventh straight Tour win.

Those he does already could be out of it.

Vinokourov is 6 minutes, 32 seconds adrift of Armstrong, Ullrich is 4:02 down and Kloeden 4:16 behind. Italian Ivan Basso, third on last year's Tour, limited the damage to 2:40.

"I don't think they're finished. I suspect they had a bad day today," Armstrong said. "I'm the last person to write them off. They may have lost some time, but we will continue to watch them and respect them."

How they will catch Armstrong up is another matter. The American is showing no signs of surrendering the yellow jersey before the race finishes on July 24.

"We are in a good position with regard to some of the main rivals," Armstrong said. "So we'll have to protect that and that might mean protecting the jersey and hopefully retiring in it."

Armstrong and Valverde covered the climb in 4 hours, 50 minutes, 35 seconds. After Armstrong forged ahead about 450 meters from the finish, he looked favorite to win. But Valverde countered, catching and passing the American almost at the line.

"I gave everything I had," Armstrong said. "I attacked and couldn't go any harder. I wanted the stage win because I haven't won a race yet this year. I'm trying."

Because of a protest at the start by farmers angry over wolf attacks on their sheep and cows, organizers shortened the race by 15 km (9.3 miles), starting it near the city of Grenoble.

Mickael Rasmussen crossed the finish line third and Spain's Francisco Mancebo was fourth, both 9 seconds back. Along with Valverde, they were the only riders who managed to stay with Armstrong on the final ascent.

Overall, Armstrong leads Rasmussen by 38 seconds. While he does not regard himself as a challenger to Armstrong, the Dane has shown himself enough of a threat on climbs to warrant the American's attention.

AP

FedEx routs Fukien five

HONG KONG—Gary David drilled in 17 points and John Ferriols added 14 as FedEx-RP demolished China's Fukien five, 96-78, Tuesday at the start of the 14th Eastcolight Super Kung Sheung Cup international tournament at the Queen Elizabeth Stadium here.

David scored seven in a 19-1 run late in the second quarter that gave the Filipinos a commanding 69-40 lead over their taller and younger Chinese counterparts.

Ferriols also grabbed 16 rebounds as FedEx overcame Zhang Jiabin's game-high 28 points, including seven triples, for Fukien.

Veteran Jerry Codiñera, at 6-foot-6, held his own against 7-1 Chinese center Xue Yuyang and 6-11 Sun Zhangcheng and chipped in seven points.

In other matches, defending champion Hong Kong whipped Singapore, 85-59, and Guangzhou subdued Seaba titlist Malaysia, 75-72, in Group A. Asian-American Sports Club routed Thailand, 99-65, in Group B.

The scores:

FEDEX-RP 96—David 17, Ferriols 14, De Ocampo 13, Dacla 12, Pingris 10, Macapagal 10, Billones 8, Codinera 7, Arboleda 4, Reroma 1.

FUKIEN 78—Zhang Jia Bin 28, Sun Zhong Cheng 11, Xue Yu Yang 9, Cai Zhi Zong 8, Yu Xiang 8, Lin Weng Zhan 7, Cheng Rong Ren 4, Huang Qing Bin 3.

Quarters: 21-17, 47-31, 74-52, 96-78

SPORTSWATCH

Rich Milo NCR race Aug. 7

THE TOUGHEST and grandest of all regional elimination legs of the 29th National Milo Marathon kicks off at the Quirino Grandstand on Aug. 7 offering more than P250,000 in cash prizes to the winners. While the rest of the 12 regional legs are disputed over the 21K distance, the qualifying event for the National Capital Region is run in the full marathon. The fastest male and female runners in the 42.195-kilometer race will bring home an elegant glass trophy and a P30,000 cash purse each. They are also qualified to compete in the National Finals slated on Oct. 9 also in Metro Manila. The event is held in partnership with Bayview Park Hotel, Adidas, Cebu Pacific, Smart Kid, Department of Tourism, Addict Mobile Prepaid and Powerbar. Milo Sports Event Executive Pat Goc Ong said registration for the Metro Manila leg is limited to 13,000 runners. Registration fees are P50 for the 3K Kiddie run; P100 for the 10K and 5K fun run; and P150 for the 42K Metro Manila elimination run.

British Open 'live' on ESPN

ESPN Star Sports, Asia's number one sports broadcaster, will have the live and exclusive coverage of The Open Championship (The British Open) 2005 beginning today at 4 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. The Open Championship is considered by most golf purists as the most important of the four majors. And it is extra special this year as the championship returns to St. Andrew's, the birthplace of golf. In 2004, unheralded Todd Hamilton edged favorite Ernie Els for the title. This year, Hamilton will defend his title against a field that includes 18 former Open champions.

Makati Coliseum derby on

A TOTAL cash pot of P300,000 will be disputed in another exciting and fast-paced 3-cock derby on Saturday at the air-conditioned Makati Coliseum. The event will be hosted by All Captains Tuesday Club, assisted by Winning Time Jobo Sports and Gaming Corp. of Lito Orillaza, Rudy Salud and William Co. Participants must submit entries on Friday, starting 2 p.m. Interested parties may call 896–3545 or 895–6475 and 895-6453. Last Saturday, a total of 68 fights were fielded in the LA 939 3–cock derby. Up next is the 3-cock derby of WTJ Employees on July 25, and the "Daytime 4–Cock Derby" of Kags Paliza and Aba Badiola on Aug. 3, with P500,000 at stake. Entry fee is P6,600. Paliza and Badiola confirmed the participation of more than 80 entries. The derby will start at noon.

'PCC at 19' 5-cocker slated

ABOUT 150 cockers and breeders are seeing action in the 19th PCC Anniversary 5-cock Derby slated Monday, Wednesday and Friday next week at the Pasay City Cockpit with Sagupaan Complexor 3000 as sponsor. According to pit managers Eric dela Rosa, Butchoy Olano and Roming Vergara, the PCC management will adopt a new format for this event. Easy-to-win prizes, totaling P2 million, are at stake. Two pointers in the elimination rounds on July 18 and 20 will get P15,000 each. Those who will emerge as champions on July 22 are guaranteed to receive P1 million. For reservation of cockhouses, call 843-1890, 843-1746 and 816-6750

GOLF'S OLDEST SUPERSTAR
TEES OFF ON JULY 14
THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

At 146 years old, it's golf's oldest championship with a course that has proven a demanding test for even the world's top golfers. Can the pros overcome the traps of St Andrews in 2005?
Catch all the action LIVE on ESPN and find out who will leave his mark on the Claret Jug.

July 14	July 15	July 16	July 17	LIVE & EXCLUSIVE
Preview 3.30pm First Round 4.00pm - 2.30am	Second Round 4.00pm - 2.30am	1st & 2nd Round Highlights 4.00pm Third Round 5.00pm - 2.30am	Final Round 6.00pm - 2.00am	ESPN espnstar.com

ESPN IS AVAILABLE ON OVER 200 CABLE CHANNELS. CALL YOUR LOCAL OPERATOR NOW TO SUBSCRIBE.

Christian Bautista's manager a major headache?

DOLLY WOOD

Dolly Ann Carvajal

COULD it be true that stage actor **Carlo Orosa**—who also happens to be the manager of singer **Christian Bautista**—is becoming a major headache to Viva people? An insider told me that Carlo has been giving Viva the runaround when it comes to Christian's singing engagements with **Rachel Ann Go**.

My source laments: "Ever since Christian was paired with Anne Curtis in 'Kampanerang Kuba,' it seems the series has become their priority. Of course that's a big break for Christian, but *nauna namang nakilala ang* singing tandem *nila ni* Rachel Ann? Besides, I heard that there's romance brewing between them (Christian and Anne)."

Christian has proven his worth as a singer. Perhaps now he wants to focus on acting. But sooner or later he has to decide between singing and acting. You can't have everything. Not all at the same time, anyway.

This guy's in love

Keempee de Leon has proclaimed his love for **Christine Reyes** on national TV.

Kimpoy fondly calls me "Ms Emociones," since he knows how crazy I can get when Cupid strikes. Now it's my turn to call him "Mr. Emotional." I've seen how devoted he can get when he's in love—so Christine is one lucky girl.

Kimpoy's as a playboy is just an image. In spite of their 16-year age difference, Kimpoy is deadset on pursuing **Ara Mina's** younger sister. What an interesting twist! Kimpoy and Ara were sweethearts during their "That's Entertainment" days. They give a new spin to the cliche, "History repeats itself," huh? Now, that's incredible!

One blue Cookie

I'm saddened to hear about **Snooky Serna** and **Ricardo Cepeda's** separation. Cookie and I were like sisters during our teenage years because our boyfriends back then were brothers, Albert and William Martinez.

Every time we bump into each other, we giggle like high-school girls all over again, reminiscing those days of our first loves. Cookie says she and Ricardo have exhausted all means to save their marriage, to no avail. Well ... just because it ended, doesn't mean that it failed. They have both learned what they had to learn. And they're better persons after touching each other's lives. Hopefully the next time I see Cookie, I will hear her giggle again. No longer about a past love but a newfound one

South Border drivel

All the drivel about South Border's **Duncan Ramos** making "sugar mommies" out of the girls linked to him is ridiculous. I remember when he was the boyfriend of my close friend Adjeng Sarmiento, a Claudine Barretto look-alike who sings with the band Adjundie. When he didn't have enough money, Duncan would walk all the way from his place to Adjeng's condo (which are not in the same area) just to see her. Now that he's earning big bucks, he has all the means to shower his ladylove with gifts. But a true blue romantic like Duncan doesn't need money to prove his full emotional investment.

IC's in 'Idol'

Allow me to be the proud mother as I share with you the good news that my gay son **IC** is now in the cast of GMA 7's "Idol Ko Si Kap" (Saturdays, after "Imbestigador") led by my gorgeous *kumpare* **Sen. Bong Revilla.**

Catch IC's initial appearance as Bambina, the wedding planner, this Saturday. Thanks to Bong, Rufa Mae and the rest of the cast and staff of "Idol" for making my *dalagita* feel instantly at home in "Rancho Verde."

As GMA 7's jingle goes, "*Pusong mamon o pusong bato ...*" IC's "*pusong babae*" is leaping for joy now that he's officially a "kapuso!"

Martin's latest

After releasing a compilation of the best-loved wedding songs in his hit album, " Best Wishes," **Martin Nievera** has launched an album of heartbreak songs titled, "When Love Is Gone" (EMI Music Philippines, Inc.). What a segue, huh? If anyone has gone through the whole gamut of love's emotions and yet never lost faith in love, it's the Concert King himself. So, though he's singing sad songs, his voice is a soothing balm for achy-breaky hearts.

The album's first single is "Goodbye," a song about lost love and a duet with ... who else but **Pops Fernandez?** It's a remake of a **Regine Velasquez** recording, written by **Martin Nievera** and **Louie Ocampo.**

Other cuts in the album are "Hanggang Langit," "I Don't Want you to Go" (duet with Ima Castro), "Just Once," "Sorry" (duet with Bryan Mcknight), "Nasaan Ka Man," "Minsan Lang," "Naghihintay," "Never Said Goodbye," "Before You Say Goodbye" among others. The album will be out by the end of July. So you lonely hearts out there, cheer up! Martin may just have the right antidote for you.

Reader's corner

Dear Dolly,

As for Kris and James, the whole thing reeks of a publicity gimmick. Their script looks a lot like the one with Kris and **Mark Lapid.** Think about it. **Kris Aquino's** biggest product endorsement today is San Miguel beer, which is owned by the San Miguel Corp., which also happens to own Purefoods. The big boss of the corporation is **Danding Cojuangco**, Kris' uncle.

But why would they do it? Potentially, **James Yap** might be the brightest star in the PBA for the next decade, and the bigger his star becomes, the better it is for the league. And who owns the broadcasting rights for the league today? ABC-5, chaired by Danding's nephew and Kris' cousin **Tony Boy Cojuangco.**

I could be wrong, but who knows? At the end of the day, and after several hundred words on the subject...

Chona of Mandaluyong

(For feedback, e-mail wateringholeshangri-la@yahoo.com or dollyanne@truefaithband.com)

Give ...

From page A31

a Baby." 9:50 a.m., "The Big Bounce."

On Cinemax today: 6:30 a.m., "Will Penny." 11:15 a.m., "The Postman." July 15: 6:30 a.m., "A Few Good Men." 2 p.m., "Giant."

New Nick shows

THE NICKELODEON Channel is launching a new series, "Four Eyes," on July 16. Say hi to Emma, a popular alien from fashionable Planet Albacore 7, whose fashionable E.T. self transforms into an unglamorous human geek. This happens when she is zapped to Earth and studies in the 5th grade.

On all weekends this month, laugh a lot by viewing "Cow at the Moo-vies," the latest live action and hilarious series of "Naturally Sadie," plus back-to-back telecasts of popular shows like "Sponge Bob Square Pants," "Rocket Power," "Fairly Odd Parents," "Hey Arnold," "Sabrina, the Teenage Witch," and "Adventures of Jimmy Neutron."

Also, get glued to "Unfabulous," "All Grown Up," "My Dad, the Rockstar," and "Drake & Josh," the Kids' Choice 2005 awardee for Favorite Kids' Show.

Finally, for younger kids, Nick Jr. features new episodes of the award-winning and top-rated series, "Little Bear." And watch out for "The Backyardigans," "Hi-5," "Blue's Clues," "Miss Spider Sunny Patch Friends," and "Dora the Explorer."

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
GRAB YOUR HANKIES, GIVE YOURSELF A GOOD CRY!
Jennifer Love Hewitt Paul Nicholls
If Only
What if... life gives you a second chance... to love the one you lost?

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
8th floor Shangrila Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633.2227 / 6337851 loc. 171
1 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR GP
2 (DOLBY) HERBIE: FULLY LOADED GP
3 (DOLBY) IF ONLY PG13
4 (DOLBY) WAR OF THE WORLDS PG13
PREMIERE
(DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR GP

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DDS) NEW POLICE STORY
2 (SDDS) HERBIE FULLY LOADED
3 (DTS) FANTASTIC FOUR
4 (GOLD DTS) HERBIE FULLY LOADED
5 (GOLD DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
6 (GOLD SDDS) WAR OF THE WORLDS
7 (GOLD DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
8 PINOY BLONDE
9 IF ONLY
10 CAMPUS GHOST STORY

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6963 or 72
1 (DOLBY) IF ONLY
2 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
3 (DOLBY) HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
4 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR

CINEMA 2000
Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216
1 NEW POLICE STORY
2 FANTASTIC FOUR
3 HERBIE FULLY LOADED
4 PINOY BLONDE

Blue Wave MARIKINA
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927
1 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
2 (DOLBY) NEW POLICE STORY
3 (DOLBY) HERBIE FULLY LOADED
4 (DOLBY) PINOY BLONDE

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium
Cinema 2000 Waltermart (Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 PINOY BLONDIE
2 (DTS) NEW POLICE STORY
3 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
4 MONSTER IN LAW

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall (Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 MONSTER IN LAW
2 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
3 (DTS) NEW POLICE STORY
4 PINOY BLONDIE

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto tel 733.4238
1 (DOLBY) SOON TO OPEN
2 SOON TO OPEN
3 SOON TO OPEN
4 SOON TO OPEN
5 SOON TO OPEN

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix (Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 BATMAN BEGINS
2 SIX
3 (DOLBY) WAR OF THE WORLDS

Universal (Manila) tel: 7334043 or 2470
1 PINOY BLONDE

MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 CREEP
2 MONSTER IN LAW
3 GRACIA
4 RESERVED

Cinema 2000 Metrotown (Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 SIX
2 SIN CITY
3 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
4 (DTS) WAR OF THE WORLDS

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph (Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 PINOY BLONDE
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) FANTASTIC FOUR
5 HERBIE FULLY LOADED

Masagana CINEMA (Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 NEW POLICE STORY
3 HERBIE FULLY LOADED

Cinema 2000 Waltermart (Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 PREMONITION
3 (DOLBY) WAR OF THE WORLDS

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph (ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 5433994
1 PINOY BLONDE
2 NEW POLICE STORY
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED
5 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
6 HERBIE FULLY LOADED

Jade Cinema (Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) HERBIE FULLY LOADED
2 PINOY BLONDE
3 (DTS EX) NEW POLICE STORY
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

Lianas Cinema (Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) NEW POLICE STORY
2 KALAPATI SA GABI
3 PROSTIE
4 (DTS) RIPPER LETTER FROM HELL

Lianas MovieCity (Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
2 PINOY BLONDE
3 (DTS) NEW POLICE STORY
4 KALAPATI SA GABI
5 MONSTER IN LAW

Cine Nepo (Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 HERBIE FULLY LOSDED
2 PINOY BLONDE
3 (DOLBY) NEW POLICE STORY
4 (DTS) FANTASTIC FOUR

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph (Las Pinas) tel (047) 237.7007
1 (DOLBY)
2 RESERVED

Cine Nepo (Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8409
1 WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 SIX
3 (DOLBY) BATMAN BEGINS
4 (DTS) JACKETS

Fiesta World Mall (Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 COACH CARTER
2 CREEP
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
4 SIN CITY

Centre Plaza Cinema (Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 BATMAN BEGINS
2 MADAGASCAR

Berma Cinema (Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 CREEP
2 TAMPISAW

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Araneta Center Leisure Guide

Farmers Plaza
Your Value-For-Money Mall

CINEMA SCHEDULES
Gateway CINEPLEX 10 LEVEL 4, GATEWAY MALL
ONLY P99 ADMISSION
P120 RESERVED SEATS
P140 WAR OF THE WORLDS & FANTASTIC 4
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL TICKETNET AT 911-5555

IF ONLY 12:40 / 2:50 / 5:00 / 7:10 / 9:20
NEW POLICE STORY 1:30 / 4:10 / 6:50 / 9:30
FANTASTIC FOUR 1:00 / 2:00 / 4:30 / 7:00 / 9:30
CAMPUS GHOST STORIES 1:30 / 4:00 / 6:30 / 9:00
WAR OF THE WORLDS 2:00 / 4:30 / 7:00 / 9:30
HERBIE: FULLY LOADED 12:30 / 2:50 / 5:10 / 7:30 / 9:50
PINOY BLONDE 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30
MONSTER IN LAW 2:45 / 5:15 / 7:45 / 10:00
GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA
ADMISSION : P 299 / Globe Platinum Subscribers P249
FANTASTIC FOUR 2:40 / 5:10 / 7:40 / 10:10

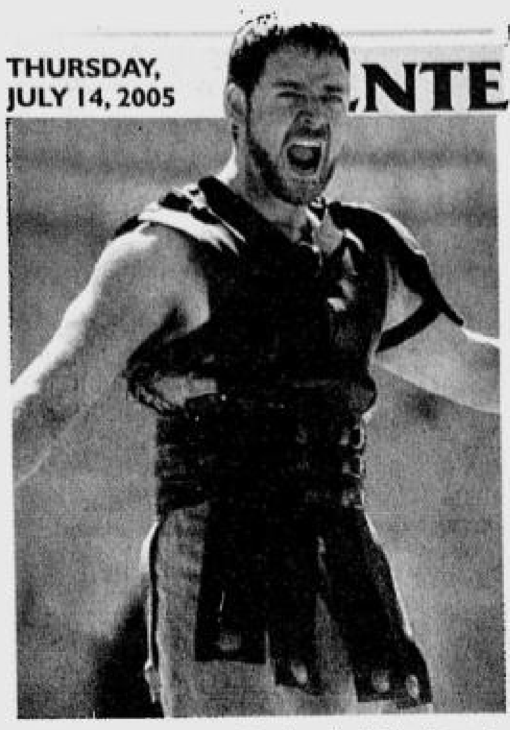
ALI MALL CINEMAS
❶ HERBIE: FULLY LOADED 12:00 / 1:40 / 4:00 / 6:20 / 8:40
❷ NEW POLICE STORY 12:10 / 2:50 / 5:30 / 8:10
❸ FANTASTIC FOUR 12:10 / 2:20 / 4:30 / 6:40 / 8:50
❹ PINOY BLONDE 11:50 / 2:00 / 4:10 / 6:20 / 8:30
❺ WAR OF THE WORLDS 12:45 / 3:15 / 5:45 / 8:15
DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

ARANETA COLISEUM EVENTS
July 16, 21 & 23 UAAP GAMES 10 am / 12 nn / 2 pm / 4 pm
JOHN MAXWELL ASIAN TOUR 2005 July 22, Friday 6:00 pm
July 18, 20, 25 & 27 NCAA GAMES
Aug 1 PBA GOODWILL TOURNAMENT

CENTER EVENTS
SALE EVENTS: Freeway Sale (Upper Ground Floor) and Barbizon & Sassa Sale (2nd Floor) at Ali Mall; Folded & Hung Sale (Level 2) and Bayo Sale (Level 3) at Gateway Mall
PERFORMANCES: Guarana on July 15, Acoustic Jive on July 16 & Mon David on July 17 at the Gateway Roxas Tunnel
EXHIBITS: Mega Magazine's 10 Most Beautiful Women Exhibit ongoing until July 15 at the Upper Ground Floor of Gateway Mall

LOG ON TO www.aranetacenter.net FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

But wasn't Maximus killed in part one?



RUSSELL Crowe as Maximus in "Gladiator"

NEW YORK—Russell Crowe's character may have been killed off at the end of the Oscar-winning movie "Gladiator," but that doesn't mean there won't be a sequel, Crowe's co-star, Djimon Hounsou, said on Monday.

Crowe won an Oscar for his role as a Roman general betrayed by a jealous prince and who returns to Rome as a gladiator. Hounsou played an African slave who fights alongside him in the Colosseum.

Speaking in New York to promote his latest film "The Island," Hounsou said "definitely the desire is to do a sequel."

He acknowledged it would be hard for Crowe to return as Maximus given his dramatic death at the end of the first film, but he said producers were working on the script and casting decisions. *Reuters*

Also forthcoming from Hollywood:

Eastwood and Spielberg

LOS ANGELES—Oscar-winning director Clint Eastwood has recruited screen star Ryan Philippe to star in his next movie "Flags of Our Fathers," industry bible Daily Variety has reported.

The World War II-era film, which Eastwood is directing and co-producing along with Steven Spielberg, is based on the book "Flags of Our Fathers: Heroes of Iwo Jima," by James Bradley with Ron Powers.

Screenplay is by Paul Haggis, who wrote the script for "Million Dollar Baby." *AFP*

Steven on terrorism

LOS ANGELES—Director Steven Spielberg, who tackled the Holocaust in "Schindler's List," has begun work on a film exploring the aftermath of the terrorist attack on the 1972 Munich Olympics, Universal Studios announced.

The film is set for release Dec. 23, the studio said.

"The attack at Munich by Black September and the Israeli response to it was a defining moment in the modern history of the Middle East," the studio statement quoted Spielberg as saying. *AFP*

Fincher and Pitt

LOS ANGELES—After they teamed up for "Seven" and "Fight Club," director David Fincher will direct Brad Pitt for a third time in "Benjamin Button," Variety reported.

The script of the Paramount picture is by Eric Roth, who earned an Oscar for his work on "Forrest Gump." It is about a middle-aged man who begins to turn back the clock and falls in love with a young woman to be played by Cate Blanchett.

"Benjamin Button" will start filming in October 2006. *AFP*

Cage and Stone

NEW YORK—Nearly four years after the collapse of the World Trade Center, Oscar-winning director Oliver Stone will direct a film based on the story of two police officers trapped in the rubble on Sept. 11, 2001.

Nicolas Cage will star as Port Authority police Sgt. John McLoughlin. McLoughlin and fellow officer William J. Jimeno who became trapped during rescue efforts.

The movie is expected to be released next year.

"It's a work of collective passion," Stone said in a statement. *AP*

2 more days to join McDo talent search

LAST DAY for the submission of entries to McDonald's Next Big Thing Talent Search Contest is tomorrow.

Prizes at stake are P25,000 in cash and a recording contract.

Application forms, available at all outlets of the burger chain, should be submitted with: 1) official receipt of Big Mac purchase dated anytime from June 22 to July 15, 2005; 2) one demo tape or CD of two R&B cover congs; 3) one 3R full body colored photo; and 4) one 2"x2" ID size colored photo.

For details, call 729-6078.

Marathon screening

Win a chance to take home "Battlestar Galactica" posters and water bottles with every purchase of Seattle's Best Cookie Javakula, any size.

VIP cardholders are invited to a marathon re-screening of the new Cinemax series' Beginning and Mission 1 episodes at Seattle's Best, Greenbelt 3, tomorrow, 8 p.m. to 12:45 a.m.

Tune in to Cinemax Sundays at 9 p.m. for new episodes.

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

THE NEW POLICE STORY PG13 12:30,3:00,5:30,8:00,10:30	HERBIE: FULLY LOADED GP 11:00,1:10,3:30, 5:50,8:10,10:30	IF ONLY PG13 11:35,1:45,3:55, 6:05,8:15,10:25
FANTASTIC FOUR GP 11:50,2:10,4:30, 6:50,9:10	WAR OF THE WORLDS PG13 12:00,2:30,5:00, 7:30,10:00	FANTASTIC 4 GP 12:50,3:10,5:30, 7:50,10:10

ALL BRANDS BIG SALE!
UP TO 70% OFF

MANGO CARBON NINE WEST CHOCOLATE CLASSIC CHARMZ DON'T MISS FCUK FLORSHEIM FRESH HOT PINK LILY GINGERSNAPS CMG OLD ASIA GNC DETAILS & PORCUPINE LAZANTIQUE LUSTRO GEM BAR THE KENNETH COLE K & COMPANY THE BODY SHOP LA COMPAGNIE DES PETITS TYLER MARKS & SPENCER DIESEL OFFICINE SHOE SALON NATURALIZER ORANGE JUICE CROCO KIDS ESPRIT PREVIEW SARABIA OPTICAL COLE HAAN BASS BABY GUESS LACOSTE CHAUSSURES NIKE FINO BEAUTY BAR SHISHEIDO DOCKERS ANNE KLEIN BALLY CK JEANS PHILIPPE CHARRIOL LEVIS DKNY SPRINGFIELD PLAY & DISPLAY MARLBORO CLASSICS SALVATORE FERRAGAMO THE BEAD SHOP WATCH REPUBLIC WRAP SHOP BABY & CO. TIME STUDIO THE SHOE SHOP ART ELEMENTS

POWER PLANT MALL
DTI NCR Permit # A1-572, Series of 2005

GREENHILLS CINEMAS
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA
THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 FANTASTIC 4 GP 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:20
CINEMA 2 NEW POLICE STORY PG13 11:00, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
PROMENADE
GREENHILLS
...a dinertainment for all!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 3 IF ONLY PG13 11:30, 1:40, 3:50, 6:00, 8:10, 10:20
CINEMA 4 FANTASTIC 4 GP 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
CINEMA 5 HERBIE GP 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.
MUSIC MUSEUM
JULY 29 & 30 SOULSISTERS (Jessa, Marissa & Ara) 8PM
AUGUST 5 & 6 NONOY ZUNIGA "THE LOVE CONCERT" 9PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

SHANG CINEPLEX
① FANTASTIC FOUR MTRCB GP 12 10, 2 40, 5 10, 7 40, 10 10
② HERBIE FULLY LOADED MTRCB GP 11 50, 2 20, 4 50, 7 20, 9 50
③ IF ONLY MTRCB PG-13 11 35, 2 00, 4 25, 6 50, 9:15
④ WAR OF THE WORLDS MTRCB PG-13 12 00, 2 30, 5 00, 7 30, 10.00
PREMIERE THEATRE FANTASTIC FOUR
MTRCB GP 1 40, 4 10, 6 40, 9 10
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice
Catch the Cineplex Special
A Blockbuster Gift for All Seasons
The Shang Cineplex Gift Certificates
Treat your family and friends to a thrilling movie experience only at the Shang.
Cinema Treats - for Cinemas 1,2,3 and 4
Premiere Rewards - for the Premiere Theatre
Regular Ticket Price
Cinemas 1 to 4 - P150
Premiere Theatre - P295 (includes unlimited popcorn and beverage)
Call 633-7851, loc. 171 or 633-2227 / 633-4735 for more details.
Shangri-La Plaza

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE
1 IF ONLY PLEASE CALL FOR SCREENING TIME
2 FANTASTIC FOUR PLEASE CALL FOR SCREENING TIME GP
3 HERBIE FULLY LOADED PLEASE CALL FOR SCREENING TIME
4 FANTASTIC FOUR PLEASE CALL FOR SCREENING TIME GP

Experience SM CINEMA movietime
movie schedules events promos

What movies are you into?
We want to know the movies you wanna see!
TEXT your movies to
09223883763

TOMMY LEE JONES
MAN OF THE HOUSE
Witness this hilarious comedy about a Texan ranger teamed up with cheerleaders!
Watch it EXCLUSIVELY at SM North Edsa today!
WAVE 89.1

FOR GUARANTEED SEATS
the podium 633-8976
1 FANTASTIC FOUR 12:10FS/12:40MF/03:00/05:20/07:40 09:25LFS/10:00LMF/11:45END
2 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED 11:45FS/12:15MF/02:25/04:35/06:45 08:25LFS/09:00LMF/10:40END
megamall 633-1901
MR. & MRS. SMITH 12:30FS/01:00MF/03:50/06:40 08:40LFS/09:30LMF/11:30END
cebu (032) 231-3876
1 MR. & MRS. SMITH [illegible]
2 FANTASTIC FOUR [illegible]
3 NEW POLICE STORY [illegible]

FEEL EXCLUSIVE Now SHOWING EXCLUSIVELY at SM CINEMA
A Special Back-to-School Presentation
An Inspiring story about following your own dreams
Ice Princess
Big things happen to those who dream big.
Watch it EXCLUSIVELY at SM Fairview today!
WAVE 89.1
Official Radio Partner

METRO MANILA

SM MEGAMALL
1 MR. & MRS. SMITH
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
IF ONLY
4 NEW POLICE STORY
5 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CAMPUS GHOST STORY
8 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
MONSTER-IN-LAW
10 FANTASTIC FOUR
PINOY BLONDE
12 MAN OF THE HOUSE

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
MR. & MRS. SMITH
2 NASAAN KA MAN
CREEP
4 WAR OF THE WORLDS
5 NEW POLICE STORY
6 PINOY BLONDE
7 FANTASTIC FOUR
8 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
9 IF ONY
10 CAMPUS GHOST STORY
11 BATMAN BEGINS
12 ICE PRINCESS

SM NORTH EDSA
FANTASTIC FOUR
WAR OF THE WORLDS
IF ONLY
HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
5 PINOY BLONDE
6 NEW POLICE STORY
CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
8 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM CITY MANILA
NEW POLICE STORY
2 IF ONLY
MR. & MRS. SMITH
FANTASTIC FOUR
5 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
WAR OF THE WORLDS
MONSTER-IN-LAW
8 BATMAN BEGINS
PINOY BLONDE
10 NASAAN KA MAN
11 CREEP
12 CAMPUS GHOST STORY

SM CITY STA MESA
FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
IF ONLY
5 NEW POLICE STORY
6 CAMPUS GHOST STORY
NASAAN KA MAN
8 MONSTER-IN-LAW
9 PINOY BLONDE
10 BATMAN BEGINS

SM CITY SOUTHMALL
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 NEW POLICE STORY
3 WAR OF THE WORLDS
4 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
5 CAMPUS GHOST STORY
6 MR. & MRS. SMITH
NASAAN KA MAN
8 MONSTER-IN-LAW
9 IF ONLY
10 PINOY BLONDE

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
RESERVED
2 RESERVED
RESERVED
4 RESERVED

SM SUPERCENTER SUCAT
FANTASTIC FOUR
2 PINOY BLONDE
3 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
NEW POLICE STORY

SM CITY BICUTAN
PINOY BLONDE
2 NEW POLICE STORY
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
4 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED

LUZON

SM CITY PAMPANGA
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
3 MONSTER-IN-LAW
4 WAR OF THE WORLDS
5 PINOY BLONDE
6 NEW POLICE STORY

SM CITY BACOOR
CREEP
2 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
WAR OF THE WORLDS
5 NEW POLICE STORY
6 PINOY BLONDE
CAMPUS GHOST STORY
8 IF ONLY

SM CITY DASMARINAS
1 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
2 PINOY BLONDE
3 NEW POLICE STORY
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

SM CITY BAGUIO
1 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
2 PINOY BLONDE
3 WAR OF THE WORLDS
4 FANTASTIC FOUR

SM CITY MARILAO
NEW POLICE STORY
2 FANTASTIC FOUR
PINOY BLONDE
4 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED

SM CITY LUCENA
FANTASTIC FOUR
WAR OF THE WORLDS
PREMONITION
4 HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY

SM CITY BATANGAS
WAR OF THE WORLDS
MONSTER-IN-LAW
3 FANTASTIC FOUR
4 PREMONITION

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

SM CITY CEBU
MR. & MRS. SMITH
FANTASTIC FOUR
NEW POLICE STORY
4 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
PINOY BLONDE
6 HOTEL RWANDA
7 ALONE IN THE DARK
WAR OF THE WORLDS

SM CITY ILOILO
1 HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY
2 RESERVED
3 WAR OF THE WORLDS
4 SIN CITY
5 A LOT LIKE LOVE
6 FANTASTIC FOUR
7 RESERVED
8 CREEP

SM CITY DAVAO
NEW POLICE STORY
HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY
PINOY BLONDE
WAR OF THE WORLDS
5 SIN CITY
FANTASTIC FOUR

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 PINOY BLONDE
3 POOH'S HEFFALUMP
4 WAR OF THE WORLDS

MOVIE STOPOVER
It's movietime at SM Cinema San Lazaro!
STARRING
1 PREMIERE MOVIE TICKET
+1 REG. POPCORN
+12 oz. ICED TEA
+1 SUPER SARAP ICE CREAMSTICK
FOR ONLY P130.00
SAVE UP TO P30.00
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A1-597 series of 2005 PROMO DURATION JULY 15 - 31, 2005
now open
SM CINEMA SAN LAZARO
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA
CALL NOW 833-9999
CLICK AWAY www.smcinema.com

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA 632-9115/16

1 FANTASTIC FOUR • THX
2 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
3 PINOY BLONDE
4 IF ONLY
5 NEW POLICE STORY
6 FANTASTIC FOUR
7 MONSTER-IN-LAW
8 CAMPUS GHOST STORIES
9 WAR OF THE WORLDS
10 SHANGHAI LILY

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 NEW POLICE STORY
2 CAMPUS GHOST STORIES
3 WAR OF THE WORLDS
4 IF ONLY
5 FANTASTIC FOUR
6 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
7 PINOY BLONDE

METRO EAST 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 CAMPUS GHOST STORIES
3 PINOY BLONDE
4 FANTASTIC FOUR
5 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
6 NEW POLICE STORY
7 IF ONLY
8 WAR OF THE WORLDS

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2574

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 CREEP
4 KALAPATI

PIONEER 687-5378

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 NEW POLICE STORY
3 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
4 IF ONLY

Robinsons MOVIEWORLD CAn be YOUR CINEMA!

Open for advance screenings, product launches, concerts, school events and other organizational functions. *PLUS! Exclusive screenings of blockbuster films.*

For interested parties, you may contact Marketing Services Department 687-7945 to 47 • 633-4446 • 636-2894 locals 14/15

THX CERTIFIED CINEMA

CINEMAS
See it At its Best!

STA ROSA (049) 837-0807

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 NEW POLICE STORY
4 PINOY BLONDE
5 MONSTER-IN-LAW

LIPA (043) 757-3668 (043) 312-5870

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 SIN CITY
3 WAR OF THE WORLDS
4 COACH CARTER

DASMARINAS (046) 852-2125 (046) 416-4332

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
3 NEW POLICE STORY
4 PINOY BLONDE

ANGELES (045) 892-2481

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 PINOY BLONDE
3 NEW POLICE STORY
4 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED

IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 NEW POLICE STORY
3 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
4 PINOY BLONDE

STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 961-5279

1 WAR OF THE WORLDS
2 MONSTER-IN-LAW
3 NEW POLICE STORY
4 PINOY BLONDE
5 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED
6 FANTASTIC FOUR

BACOLOD (034) 441-0453 (034) 441-0459

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WAR OF THE WORLDS
3 WIMBLEDON
4 THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY
5 PINOY BLONDE
6 HAPPILY EVER AFTER

ILOILO (033) 336-8070

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 CREEP
3 WAR OF THE WORLDS
4 SIN CITY

The Perfect Gift All Year Round

A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

Get Special discounts for volume purchases!

For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

AYALA CENTER GLORIETTA • GREENBELT

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

AYALA MALLS Lovemall!

AYALA MALLS
Electronic Gift Certificate

So you won't hear them say you never get them the right size, style or color.

Available at the Discount Plus booth
Call 752-7324 to 25
www.ayalamalls.com.ph

1 card = 100 stores
The gift card you love to give & get.

AYALA CENTER Lovemall!

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
JVC Open Badminton Championship July 4 to 10, 2005	NU 107 Pocket Concert June 9, 2005	Kiddo Event - Funky Paper July 9, 2005 Slimmer's World Fitness Day July 10, 2005

AYALA GREENBELT

Ford Exhibit
July 8 to 11, 2005

GREENBELT 1 Onstage AYALA CENTER

"DON'T THINK" - A multi-media performance by Marge Enriquez (By Invitational Only)
Directed by Bart Guingona & Choreographed by Douglas Nieras
July 28,2005

Ayala MUSEUM

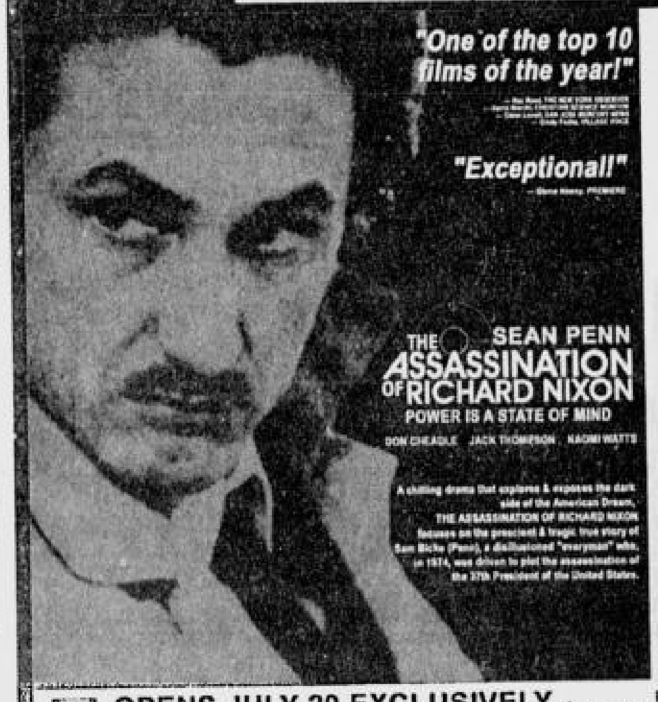
Registration for Art Workshops now on-going at Ayala Museum
For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 29.
Online registration at www.ayalamuseum.org

AYALA CINEMAS

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729 7777

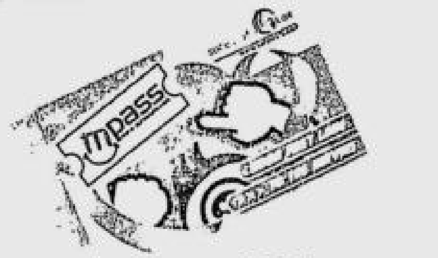
G1 GLORETTA 1	1 PINOY BLONDE	2 FANTASTIC 4	3 WAR OF THE WORLDS	4 THE NEW POLICE STOR			
G4 GLORETTA 4	1 HERBIE FULLY LOADED	2 WAR OF THE WORLDS	3 THX FANTASTIC 4 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 CAMPUS GHOST STORY	5 PINOY BLONDE	6 FANTASTIC 4	7 IF ONLY
GB1 GREENBELT 1	1 HERBIE FULLY LOADED	2 FANTASTIC 4					
GB3 GREENBELT 3	1 THX HERBIE FULLY LOADED GUARANTEED SEATS	2 THX FANTASTIC 4 GUARANTEED SEATS	3 WAR OF THE WORLDS GUARANTEED SEATS	4 FANTASTIC 4 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 IF ONLY GUARANTEED SEATS		
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX FANTASTIC 4	2 HERBIE FULLY LOADED	3 IF ONLY	4 PINOY BLONDE	5 WAR OF THE WORLDS		
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 HERBIE FULLY LOADED	2 FANTASTIC 4	3 THE NEW POLICE STORY	4 PINOY BLONDE			



"One of the top 10 films of the year!"
"Exceptional!"
SEAN PENN
THE ASSASSINATION OF RICHARD NIXON
POWER IS A STATE OF MIND
DON CHEADLE JACK THOMPSON NAOMI WATTS

OPENS JULY 20 EXCLUSIVELY AT AYALA CINEMAS

Blockbuster deal from M-PASS



go m-pass now and get one glorietta 4 cinemas movie pass!

Admit One

AYALA CINEMAS sureseats.com

Promo period is from June 1 to July 31, 2005.
Please see standee or log on to www.sureseats.com for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. AI-420 Series of 2005.

Customer Service text hotline:	0917 6095900
Customer Service text hotline:	Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm Greenbelt - 757 4853; from 11am to 12mn
Alabang Town Center -	842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu -	(032) 231 5342 loc 324

All-Digital Cinemas

MARKET! MARKET!
The fun is in the finds
Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc.

Free Seating Cinemas: P70.00

① War of the Worlds
② Pinoy Blonde
③ Campus Ghost Story
④ The New Police Story

Guaranteed Seats Cinemas: P90.00

⑤ If Only
⑥ Herbie Fully Loaded
⑦ Fantastic 4

EVENTS! EVENTS!

Sale! Sale!

July 15 & 17
10am-10pm

July 16
10am-12mn

Sale! Sale!

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A2-352, Series of 2005

Give 'kayumanggi' talents a break

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

LOCAL show business is dominated by *mestizo* types, young men and women who look, not like *masa* Pinoys, but more like quasi-Americans or ersatz Europeans. This is the result of our age-old colonial mentality, which simply refuses to go away, despite the fact that it's been a full century since our last caucasian colonizers warped our collective psyche.

Well, we're *tisoy* ourselves, so we can't be against the *mestizo* syndrome per se—*if* it weren't glorified as much as it is on our TV and movie screens.

Since the majority of our stars and starlets look *sosyal* or foreign, it's difficult to properly cast *masa* characters in TV dramas and the movies. As a result, believability and real empathy fly out of the window, and most of our productions don't impinge in a profound way on viewers' consciousness, or subconscious.

That's why we continue to urge producers and viewers to get over their *tisoy* hang-up and give *kayumanggi* talents a break. With more of them acting in local productions, the credibility of those shows and films would be markedly enhanced.

In this regard, we're boosting the careers of two *kayumanggi* talents who have proven their exceptional thespic skills—**Rebecca Lusterio** and **Alcris Galura.**

Rebecca first proved her mettle as a girl pretending to be a boy in Marilou Diaz-Abaya's "Muro-Ami." More recently, she played Cesar Montano's younger sister in "Panaghoy sa Suba," where her natural and insightful portrayal was acclaimed.

We love Rebecca's performances because there's nothing show biz-glitzy, *porma* or fake about them. She looks proudly, beautifully Filipino, and her simple beauty has great depth and sensitivity to it—unlike most *tisay* starlets, who look like poor, shallow versions of foreign luminaries.

For his part, Alcris imposed us with his similarly natural and believable performance in "Mga Pusang Gala," where he was cast as **Ricky Davao**'s "informally-adopted" son.

Like Rebecca, Alcris looks *Pinoy na Pinoy*, and is a naturally sensitive actor. Thus, his scenes are completely believable, and we forget we're watching a movie.

This is an important and valuable effect, because genuine empathy can only take place when scenes look like they're *really* happening in front of viewers' eyes.

We urge producers and viewers to get over their colonial mentality, which inhibits local movies from *truly* vivifying life in the Philippines.

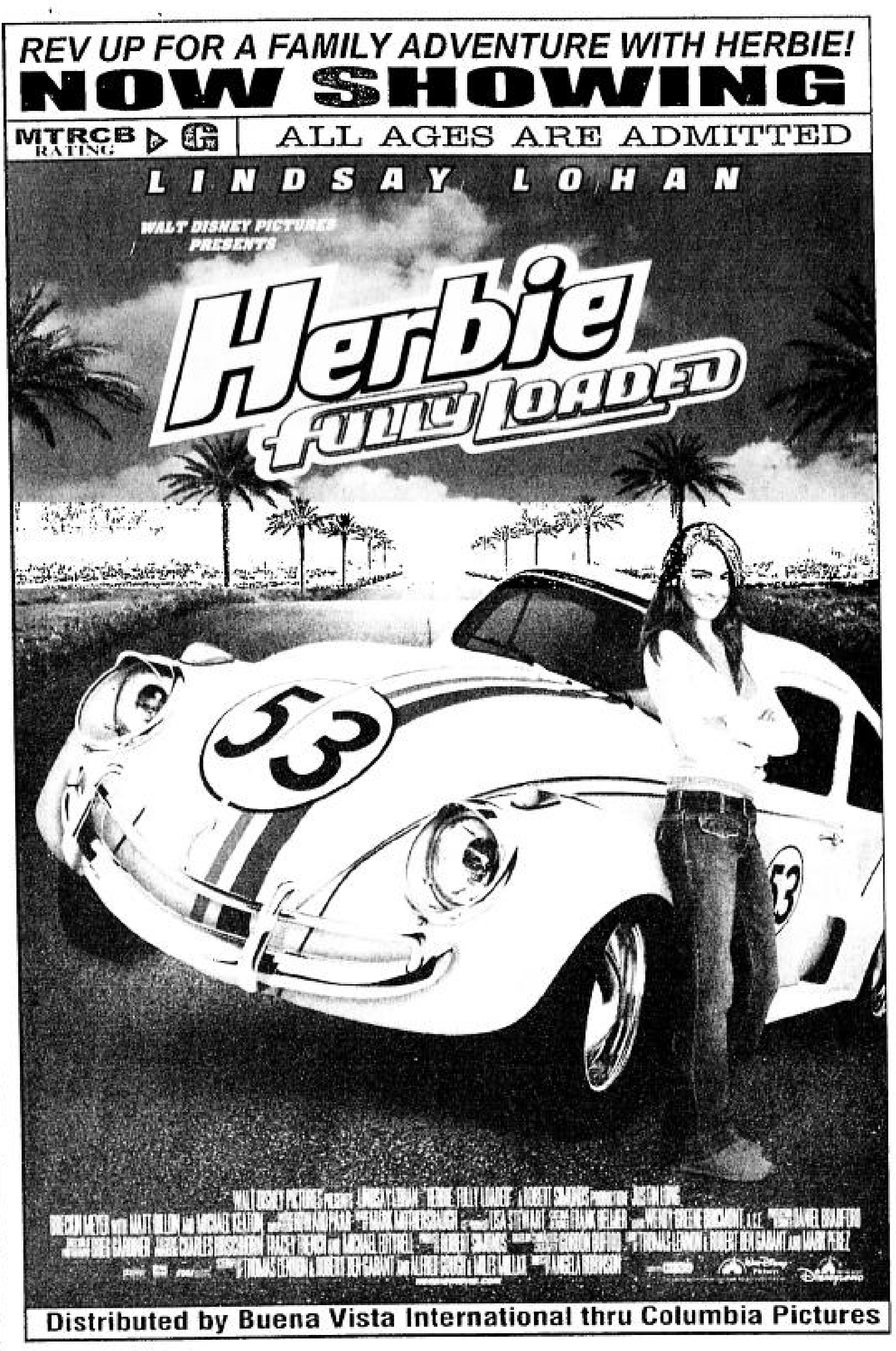
Keep the likes of Rebecca and Alcris busy as actors, and discover and support more talents like them, so our movies can really, finally come into their own!

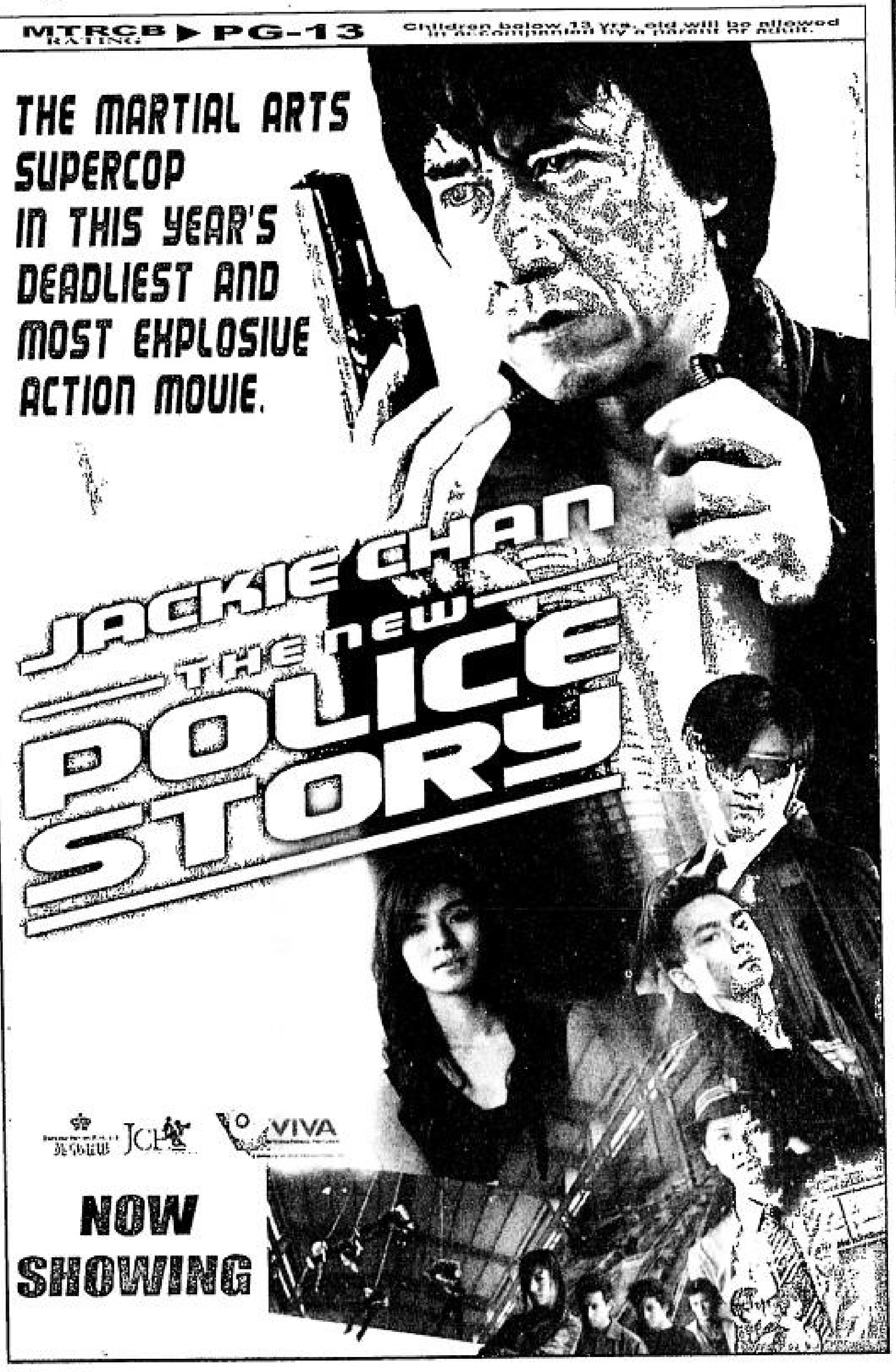
Movies on TV

ON HBO today 10:05 a.m., "Superman II." 4:55 p.m., "Seeing Double." 6:30 p.m., "The Last Samurai." 9 p.m., "Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas." 12:10 a.m., "Gods and Generals." July 15: 8 a.m., "She's having

GIVE/ A28

Kuh Ledesma presents
MUSIC MUSEUM
INQUIRER
Mitch Valdes
a ROCKIN' COMEDY
JUNE 24 & 25,
JULY 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 & 16
9:00 PM - P800
Captain's Bar,
Mandarin Oriental Manila
CALL 750.8888, MUSIC MUSEUM, 721.0635 / 721.6726, TICKETWORLD, 891.5610 / 891.9999


REV UP FOR A FAMILY ADVENTURE WITH HERBIE!
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING G
ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED
LINDSAY LOHAN
WALT DISNEY PICTURES PRESENTS
Herbie FULLY LOADED
53
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures


MTRCB RATING PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
THE MARTIAL ARTS SUPERCOP IN THIS YEAR'S DEADLIEST AND MOST EXPLOSIVE ACTION MOVIE.
JACKIE CHAN
THE new POLICE STORY
JCE
VIVA
NOW SHOWING

OPENS JULY 20
MTRCB RATING R-13
STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP.
The dead will rise from their graves
DEREK TSANG
BO CHAN
LAILA BOONYASAK
THE Evil Dead

MTRCB RATING PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
NOW SHOWING
FROM THE MAKERS OF "THE RING", COMES A NEW HORROR PHENOMENON
CAMPUS GHOST STORIES
Starring KOJI MATSUO YUICHI MATSUO HITOMI MIWA ASUMI MIWA
Directed by TOSHIHARU IKEDA
THIS SEMESTER, SOME ANGRY SOULS ARE ALSO ENROLLED...PAPASOK KA BA SA HAUNTED SCHOOL?

MTRCB RATING G GENERAL PATRONAGE
ALL AGES ADMITTED
THE THING
MR. FANTASTIC
INVISIBLE WOMAN
HUMAN TORCH
NOW SHOWING
FANTASTIC 4 FOUR
MARVEL

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

Text us your feedback: inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

John Prats is 'still crying'

By Nini Valera

SMARTING from statements made by ex-girlfriend Heart Evangelista about their failed relationship, John Prats said that he had wanted to fight for her, but that she wouldn't allow it.

"We were a year and half into the relationship and she let me say only that we had a mutual understanding," John told INQUIRER Entertainment on Monday.

"Every time the press asked if we were together, I had to lie because she didn't want her father to find out."

John admitted that he was hurt when he found out over the weekend that Heart had talked about his inability to stand up for their love.

> He wonders why ex-girlfriend Heart Evangelista says hurtful things about him

"I never talked against her," he insisted. "But now I have to defend myself. When I found out what she said, I called and told her that I felt bad. She denied saying anything."

The actual breakup was preceded by many issues, the young actor admitted. "I felt the relationship had become so show biz. There were many instances when I felt she was mixing business with our [personal life]. In the last three months, were always fighting."

JOHN Prats

He was the one who wanted to cool off, he pointed out. "I needed to breathe, I needed space," said John. "I was also avoiding intrigues."

After some time apart, when he dated around and had fun, John tried to reconcile with Heart. "She didn't want me back," he said. "She says she cried over me for several days. I've been crying for months; I haven't moved on."

During filming of their movie "My First Romance" last year, John said, Heart's suitor Ian Dy would visit the actress on the set.

"That hurt," he said. "It was so difficult just to be with her everyday and finish the movie. So I asked for a week's break and went to Hong Kong."

He has since found solace in his work and soon returns to the big screen via Director Joyce Bernal's "D' Anothers."

He has also been dating, John admitted, but added that he couldn't commit himself to another girl yet.

"Heart is my first love," he said (and Heart has said he was hers). "But I want this to end already. How could she say I never loved her, when I wanted to come back to her?"

YOU DESERVE THE BEST ON WEEKENDS

AFTER A WEEK OF WORK AND STUDIES, TREAT YOURSELF TO

STAR CITY

ENJOY THE RIDES AND ATTRACTIONS IN THE FULLY AIRCONDITIONED AND WEATHER PROOF STAR CITY EVERY FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

TARA NA!

USE YOUR STAR CITY FIVE RIDES PROMO TICKETS ON FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Whiter skin in just a week!

Miracle Whitening Cream

Also offers Permanent Cosmetics in just 45 minutes

- EYE BROW
- EYELINER
- LIPSTICK

DIAMOND PEEL TREATMENT

- Lighten's pigmentation
- Erases acne scar
- Treat oily skin
- Rejuvenate skin
- Refine skin

Ellen's AESTHETIC CENTER

Jessica Lising Model

TIMOG • WEST AVE. • LIBIS • MANILA • LAS PIÑAS • ANGELES • SAN FERNANDO • TARLAC • OLONGAPO • CAVITE • CEBU

HOTLINE: 3746665 • 4136357 • 4388072

TALK 'N TEXT & BIRD

3-way Panalo

Sa Talk 'N Text, napakadaling manalo ng bigating prizes!

Home appliances o **Talk 'N Text Negosyo Kits** na may kasamang **P30,000** na pang-load sa WEEKLY DRAWS!

Honda Wave 125 Scooters sa MONTHLY DRAWS!

BRAND NEW KIA PICANTO o **Talk 'N Text Negosyo Kits** na may kasamang **P30,000** na pang-load sa GRAND DRAWS!

3 easy ways to win!

REGISTER AND ACTIVATE!

Bili lang ng Talk 'N Text Bird Phonekit. Mag-register lang at mag-activate - may raffle points ka na agad!

Text JOIN <name and address> <15-digit IMEI*> to 555.

Registration is FREE
*To get your cellphone's IMEI, press #06#
Each SIM and handset can only be registered once.
Subscriber gets 10 raffle points upon successful registration and activation.

ENCOURAGE A FRIEND!

Sa bawat friend mong bibili ng Talk 'N Text Bird Phonekit, puwede ka ring makakuha ng raffle points!

Text ENCOURAGE <friend's 15-digit IMEI> to 555.

P2.50 per text message
Friend must activate and register his/her purchased Talk 'n Text Bird Phonekit.
Registered subscriber and referred friend each get 10 raffle points for every successful referral.

DOWNLOAD!

May raffle points ka ring makukuha sa bawat download ng logos!

To download a logo, text BL <keyword> to 555.

Ex: BL BEACH

BEACH FRUITS SUN

To get list of available logos, text LOGO to 555.

P2.50 per text message. P15.00 per download
Registered subscriber gets 10 raffle points for every successful download. Limited to BIRD units only.

Bird S1150 Plus Bird S288 Plus

Text BIRD to 555 for more info.

Ang daling sumali, ang daling manalo, kaya mag-Talk 'N Text na!
Punta na sa SMART Wireless Centers, TSI outlets or authorized BIRD dealers!

Yan ang galing without overspending!

Promo period is from May 5 to July 27, 2005.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1156 Series of 2005

COMWORKS, INC.

For inquiries, please call (02) 888-1111 (GMA/Luzon), 1-800-1-888-2220 (Vis/Min) or *888 from your Talk 'N Text cellphone.

Powered by SMART

Accent Micro Technologies, Inc.
Suite 1406, 14/F Antel Global Corporate Center
Julia Vargas Ave. Ortigas Center Pasig City
Tel. #: 636-3563 Fax #: 636-3564
AMTI
CALL US!
Need your GE & Victron UPS service by Qualified Engineers?
- UPS diagnostics and repair
- Spare parts support
- UPS consultation services
- Battery replacement
- Preventive and corrective maintenance services
- Power quality assessment
- Trainings for large capacity UPS!

THURSDAY,
JULY 14, 2005

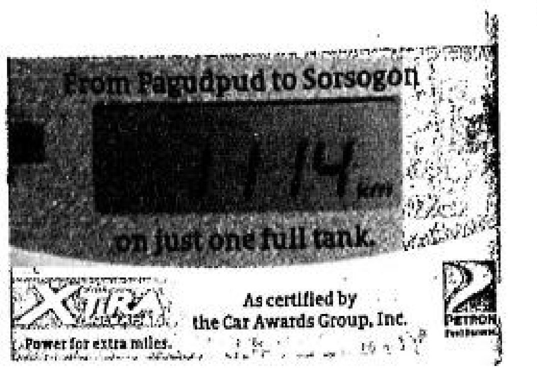
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BUSINESS

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.net

Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

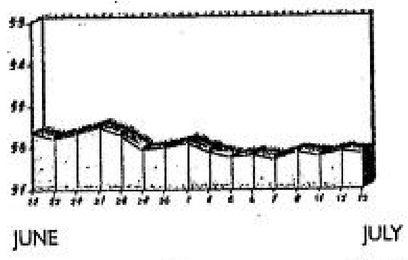


From Pagudpud to Sorsogon
1114 km
on just one full tank.
Xtra
Power for extra miles.
As certified by the Car Awards Group, Inc.
Petron

Crisis divides influential business group

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

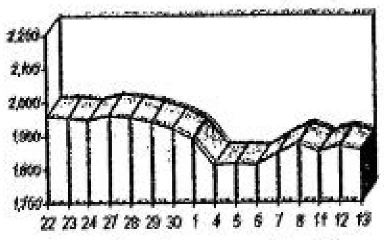
P56.150 = $1
As of 5 p.m., July 13, 2005

¥111.14 = $1
As of 5 p.m., July 13, 2005

STOCK MARKET

Shares close 0.8% lower ahead of anti-Arroyo rally

SHARE prices closed 0.8 percent lower yesterday as concerns over a planned rally against President Macapagal-Arroyo and a ratings downgrade by Moody's undercut sentiment, dealers said.



(See stock market report on Page B2)

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index fell 14.90 points to 1,854.04 after trading between 1,849.38 and 1,868.94.

Volume was 438.65 million shares worth P1.24 billion. Losers outnumbered gainers 25 to 21, with 51 stocks unchanged. *AFP*

Fedex moving hub to China

FEDEX Corp., the world's top air express shipper, is to invest $150 million in a new Asia-Pacific hub in China in a bid to strengthen its presence in the fast growing mainland market.

The hub, located at Guangzhou's new Baiyun airport in southern China, will open in December 2008 and replace Fedex's current regional base at the Subic Bay freeport—a move that reflects China's emergence as a trade powerhouse.

The new facility will be FedEx's largest outside the United States, measuring 82,000 square meters, and will allow Fedex to handle 24,000 packages an hour—double than Subic Bay's capacity.

Capacity can be doubled to 48,000 packages an hour. *Reuters*

WHAT'S INSIDE

3 ATM networks link up /B2

CA bars implementation of EPCIB by-laws /B8

Prominent families decry lack of consultation

By Ronnel W. Domingo

DIVISION among local business groups seem to be growing as protest actions demanding that President Macapagal-Arroyo resign picked up in the country's main business district.

Disagreement among local business leaders, especially those from the Makati Business Club, seem to have come full-blown as 35 MBC members scored the group's chair and board of trustees for not consulting them about a statement issued on July 8.

Last Friday, MBC chair Ricardo Romulo read a manifesto titled "A Time for Change," which said the group had come to the conclusion that the President's ability to effectively manage the affairs of state "had been seriously impaired."

The statement, which also bore the name of the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines, asked the President to resign "for the sake of national unity and for the sake of moving forward."

In a telephone interview, MBC member Fernando Martinez said the MBC leaders came up with the statement without due process.

Martinez is one of the 35 members protesting the statement. The others included the Aboitizes, the Alcantaras, the Aranetas, the Romualdezes and other members of prominent business families.

Martinez, who is chair of Eastern Petroleum Corp., said the MBC

CRISIS/ B4

AYALA TRIANGLE
PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE PLAZA
PULIS

REM ZAMORA

RIOT police walk past the Philippine Stock Exchange building in Makati financial district on Wednesday. Moody's Investors Service said on Wednesday it had cut its sovereign outlook on the Philippines because crucial reforms to cut the country's budget deficit had been thrown into doubt by a political crisis.

POLITICAL MESS

Firms brace for lower profits

PHILIPPINE companies—facing a weaker peso, rating outlook cuts and higher interest rates—are likely to suffer weaker profits this year if the country's political crisis is not resolved quickly, analysts said.

But the damage will be cushioned by slowly falling debt levels and foreign currency hedges set up prior to President Macapagal-Arroyo's barrage of woes that sparked mounting demands in recent weeks that she step down.

"If it drags on for the rest of the year, then obviously it's going to hurt," said Edgar Bancod, research head at BNP Paribas Peregrine Securities Inc.

If the impasse ends soon—whether Ms Arroyo was ousted or not—there would be no major dent in profits, he said.

The President is battling allegations of election fraud and of graft within her family.

The political crisis and a court freeze on a broader sales tax at the heart of the government's reform agenda prompted Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings on Monday to cut their credit-rating outlooks to negative from stable.

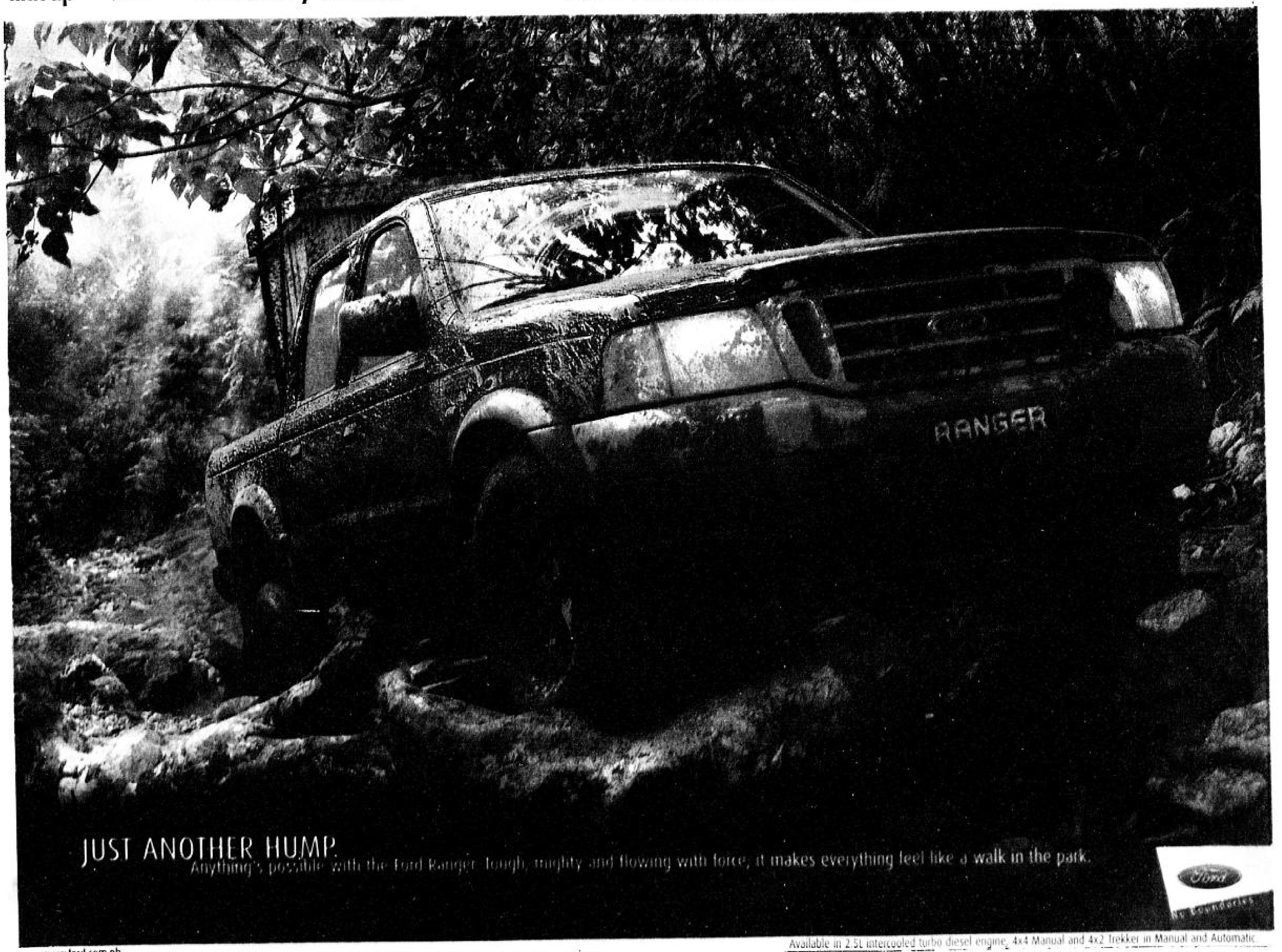
Moody's Investors Service, whose rating of Philippine debt is the most severe at four notches below investment grade, joined in yesterday by cutting its outlook to negative.

The peso has steadied after trading dangerously near its record low of 56.45 a dollar last week. But it has stayed on the wrong side of 56 and almost given up its gains this year after coming from a high of 53.93 in March.

The main stock market index, down 0.8 percent yesterday, has fallen nearly 14 percent from a five-year peak reached in March.

Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. has seen first

FIRMS/ B4



RANGER
JUST ANOTHER HUMP.
Anything's possible with the Ford Ranger. Tough, mighty and flowing with force, it makes everything feel like a walk in the park.
Ford
No Boundaries
Available in 2.5L intercooled turbo diesel engine, 4x4 Manual and 4x2 Trekker in Manual and Automatic.

www.ford.com.ph

FORD RANGER
Best Pick-up of the Year
Car of the Year - Philippines Award 2004

For every Ford vehicle sold, Ford Philippines will donate P1,000 to the Road Safety Fund that will educate drivers and promote road safety in the Philippines.

ERA
24-HOUR EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

• Ford Alabang, Trunk Lines: 842-3681 / 842-4628; Fax No. 807-4430 • Ford Balintawak, Trunk Line: 927-9648; Fax No. 927-5981 • Ford Commonwealth, Tel. Nos. 952-9118; 952-9441; 952-9446 Fax No. 952-9440 • Ford EDSA, Tel. No.: 744-2222, Fax No. 723-6311 • Ford EDSA Service Center Tel. No.: 723-7029 • Ford Libis, Trunk Line: 637-2044, Fax No. 637-6008 • Ford Makati, Trunk Line: 818-5555, Fax No. 815-0513
• Ford Manila, Tel. No. 562-5555 Fax No. 562-8985 • Ford Quezon Avenue, Tel. Nos. 731-2617 / 742-3435 / 742-3436 Fax 742-3451 • Ford Shaw Blvd., Trunk Line: 717-0888, Telefax 717-1390 • Ford Pampanga, Trunk Line: (045) 961-2888, Fax Nos. (045) 963-5205 / 961 2277 • Ford Cabanatuan, Tel. No. (044) 464-0111, Fax No. (044) 600-4200 • Ford Dagupan, Tel. No. (075) 522-2222, Telefax (075) 515-5520
• Ford San Pablo, Tel. No.: (049) 562-9186; Telefax (049) 562-8324 • Ford Cavite, Tel. No. (046) 472-2040; Fax (046) 472-2048 • Ford Cebu, Trunk Line: (032) 231-9180; Fax No. (032) 231-9023 • Ford Bacolod, Tel No. (034) 432-2151, Telefax. (034) 434-2877 • Ford Iloilo, Tel. No. (033) 321-3352, Telefax No. (033) 321-3354 • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Tel. Nos. (088) 855-8811, Telefax. (088) 855-8877 • Ford Davao, Tel. No. (082) 234-1111, Fax No. (082) 234-2222

3 ATM networks link up

By Doris C. Dumlao

FIFTEEN years after electronic banking was introduced in the Philippines, the three local automated teller machine (ATM) networks have finally interconnected, but a three-way merger as desired by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas is still nowhere in sight.

BancNet and ExpressNet yesterday signed a memorandum of agreement for interconnection. As ExpressNet is already linked to the third network Megalink, this means that bank clients can now use the ATMs of any of the three networks.

Top officials of BancNet and ExpressNet, however, ruled out the possibility of a three-way merger anytime soon.

Bank of the Philippine Islands president and chair of ExpressNet Aurelio Montinola yesterday said his network had explored the possibility of a merger with other ATM networks but decided that interconnection was the most suitable at present.

"If there's any advantage in a merger, it would be in the form of additional customers or lower cost. By being interconnected we already have the additional customers," Montinola said.

He said the country's more than 16.4 million ATM cardholders now have access to 6,000 ATMs nationwide.

Bancnet chair Angelito Villanueva, also senior executive vice president of Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co., said interconnection in lieu of a merger would ensure "healthy competition and cooperation instead of a monopolistic one network environment."

He noted that Bancnet, for its part, had evolved from a mere ATM network to a multi-channel banking service provider, facilitating other services like POS (point-of-sales) or debit, Internet and mobile phone banking.

"This interconnection is an event that will mark another stride in electronic banking and commerce," he said.

ExpressNet includes the BPI, BPI Family Bank, HSBC and HSBC Savings Bank, Land Bank of the Philippines and Banco De Oro Universal Bank.

Bancnet covers 28 banks, including Allied Banking Corp., China Banking Corp., Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co., Rizal Commercial Banking Corp., Security Banking Corp., Asia United Bank, Banco Filipino, Chinatrust Commercial Bank, Citibank, Export and Industry Bank, Manila Banking Corp., Philippine Bank of Communications, Philtrust Bank, Standard Chartered Bank, and United Overseas Bank.

GOOD NEWS!

FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES & COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATES AS WELL AS GRADUATES SEEKING SPECIAL SKILLS THAT WILL QUALIFY THEM FOR IMMEDIATE RELATIVELY GOOD-PAYING EMPLOYMENT.

They may now take at the Institute of Continuing Legal Studies and Education a TESDA-authorized *Special "Crash" Course* that will develop–in just two to three semesters–their skills in the performance of legal tasks otherwise performed by full-pledged lawyers, *with special focus on shepardized/synthesized legal research, legal analysis/ case briefing, and the writing of persuasive court pleadings and position papers.*

Qualified graduates can work as legal or executive assistants in law firms and in the legal departments of government offices/agencies and of private corporations. Their acquired training will also boost their qualifications for supervisory administrative positions.

To accommodate working students, classes are held *only* on Saturdays (whole day) for the 3-semester program and including Tuesdays and Thursdays after office hours for the 2-semester program.

For further particulars, visit the Institute at 214 Wilson St., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila, or call Linda or Eliza at Tels. 721-34-70, 725-14-81, 722-0432 and 724-05-95, locals 24 & 25, E-mail address: ocampolaw@mydestiny.net.

ENROLLMENT NOW IN FULL SWING.

PPA to bid out Batangas Port-2

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE PHILIPPINE Ports Authority is planning to bid out the operation of Phase 2 of the Batangas Port in early 2006, the head of the maritime agency said.

PPA general manager Oscar Sevilla said he was expecting the two biggest local port operators—International Container Terminal Services Inc. and Asian Terminals Inc.—to vie for the contract.

The 128-hectare Phase 2 of the Batangas port will be inaugurated on July 18. The government spent about P5.5 billion to develop this phase. The funds came from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

The second phase is six times larger than the Phase 1, which covers 20 hectares and is being operated by ATI.

The Batangas local government had also expressed interest to operate the facility.

Unlike the first phase that caters only to passengers and cargoes, Phase 2 was designed to accommodate bulk, break bulk and containerized. The new port does not have a passenger terminal.

PPA assistant general manager Benjamin Cecilio said the port could accommodate 7,000 TEU's or twenty-foot equivalent units. A TEU is a measure of containerized cargo equal to a standard size of 20 foot length of 8 ft. width and 8.5 ft. in height.

The Batangas Port serves as the transport hub of goods in the Calabarzon area. It also functions as a terminal for passengers traveling to and from nearby provinces like Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan.

Family that preys together

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

AS a newsman who is a regular paying member of the SSS, I strongly believe in two things.

One, you should never put ice in my beer or else… and, two, that "s..t" can also be an enjoyable expletive.

Actually, from what I learned from an insider in Equitable PCI Bank, "s..t" happened yesterday morning in an important meeting.

As you probably know by now, unless you are in denial, the SSS and the GSIS put in six years ago some P16 billion of our money into the bank.

Today, amazingly, we have nothing to show for it. In fact, the market value of the investment has been cut by about half.

And so yesterday, the bank's "nomination committee" was supposed to finalize the lineup of candidates to the new board.

Whadayano—Equitable PCI chair Antonio Go, the point man of the Go family in the bank, who are actually the minority stockholders, stalled the approval of the lineup.

And so the same crisp little "s..t" came out of the mouth of SSS president Cora dela Paz, possibly as a rejoinder to Tony Go. Sometimes I can also love that word.

* * *

YOU see, the SSS and the GSIS, as the biggest stockholders holding more than 40-percent interest in the bank, are hoping to wrest control of the board from the Go family.

That's the only way our pension funds can ever hope to start some reforms in the bank, and thus hopefully we can get a little more return for our problematic investment.

To take away control from the Go family, the SSS and the GSIS had thought, correctly, that they would need a one-time, honest-to-goodness election of the board.

Last year, the Go family sprang a surprise attack on the SSS and the GSIS, by disqualifying all other candidates. Then they put in their "independent" directors.

This time, the "nomination committee" should finalize the lineup of candidates 10 days before the election during the annual stockholders' meeting on July 19.

That should give the candidates a little time to correct what the Go family and their "attack dogs" in the bank may, again, suddenly decide as bugs in their nomination.

Dela Paz was pushing for the committee approval of the lineup yesterday, fearing that the elections could again turn out like last year's Go family coup.

For obvious reasons, committee chair Tony Go refused, and without much ado, thank you, he called for a division of the house. The family controls the committee.

That's when Dela Paz blurted out the "S" word. It is music to my ear. It tells me that, if only for the sake of 26 million SSS members, Dela Paz is on the warpath against this family that preys on the bank together.

* * *

OKAY, I know that I was a little unkind to Dela Paz in previous columns, mainly because I thought that she was letting the Go family get away with something tantamount to robbery.

While the SSS and the GSIS put in P16 billion into a "joint venture" with the Go family to acquire the old PCI Bank, the Go family did not put in a single centavo.

The Go family simply used the money of the bank. All P16 billion! This, in mahjong, is called "sin capital." They now pocket their winnings by controlling the bank.

The beauty of it all is that, in some paid ads put out by some amateurish PRs for them, the Go family even claims that everything was alright. Oh yeah?

Let me see if I get this right—so the Go family borrowed money to pay for their part in the joint-venture, and when they could not pay for the loan, they simply got other people's money, which is just alright, because the family still controls the bank—is that it?

Hey, Bangko Sentral, I want the same arrangement, if you please, in all my dealings with banks from now on, okay! I also want to use other people's money, without permission from those same people, and not go to jail for it.

* * *

ANYWAY, bank insiders told me that, silently and without fanfare, Dela Paz is working on an audit of that questionable P16-billion financial maneuver of the Go family.

For instance, because the bank gave up a good chance to earn from that P16 billion that the Go family used for their personal benefit, in effect, the SSS investment took a big hit.

Unknown to many, aside from its initial investments in the supposed, alleged or so-called "joint venture" with the Go family, the SSS bought some more Equitable PCI shares. That's why Dela Paz seems to be raising hell now.

When Tony Go again stalled the approval of the lineup of candidates to the board, apparently to Dela Paz it was a sign of another scheme that the Go family would use to keep their stranglehold over the bank.

Look, she even threw a little expletive toward Tony Go's way. Okay, I was wrong in misjudging Dela Paz in earlier columns as a wimp. So sue me!

* * *

EVERYBODY in the government side in the Equitable PCI board knows that the Go family will do anything to continue to control the board—even "garapal" style.

They control the board at present, and they can use the same control to railroad the forthcoming board elections.

Once they take control of the board another time, even as a minority group, they can push for their "swap deal" with the lord bidder himself, John Gokongwei Jr.

Earlier, the Go family has been denying that there was such a deal. Believe me—there is one. And they even used the law firm Accra for the documentation.

By the way, the SSS and the GSIS, in their joint venture with the Go family to acquire the old PCI Bank, actually gave their cash and, later, the cash of the bank, too, to the sellers, among them … well, none other than Gokongwei.

And now, it seems that lord bidder is getting inside again through a little "swap deal." In short—no cash involved. Wow!

Once Gokongwei is inside the bank, something he could not do while Rafael Buenaventura was still the Bangko Sentral governor, there's no telling what he can do.

Probably he can even dilute the SSS and the GSIS, who knows? Or even, once he is inside the bank again, it will be hard for the two pension funds to liquefy their holdings. Things like those!

* * *

ANYWAY, among those whose nominations earned some questions from the Go family "attack dogs" in the board were veteran banker Edward Go's, since he was supposedly once part of Commercial Motor, which has been in a legal tangle with the bank.

Another was Peter Garrucho's, who supposedly once worked for the Malayan group of taipan Alfredo Yuchengco.

The SEC already disqualified former Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto "independent director" Romulo to become … well, an "independent" director. He probably outlived his usefulness to the Go family.

There were also questions regarding former Ambassador Cesar Bautista's qualifications.

But those were just tiny kinks in the nomination. As Dela Paz correctly pointed, about 25 candidates were already approved. Why should Tony Go stall the committee's okay?

Obviously, it is the game plan, what else? After all, the Go family is only taking advantage of some P16 billion in the funds of the troubled SSS, which we, the members, only paid for with our blood. What's that to the Go family, right?

* * *

BUT now that Dela Paz turned out to be also our hero in the bank, together with GSIS general manager Winston Garcia, we can expert a lot of fireworks.

Look at that, according to insiders, Dela Paz and Garcia are working together to get their institution's fair share in the Equitable PCI affairs.

Who would have thought that a lawyer and CPA could see eye to eye, get their act together, and give the Go family hell in the bank? Oil and water, after all, do mix!

And that, to me, should make it a bit harder for the Go family to impose their schemes on the bank. The last time I checked, they are the minority stockholders.

Insiders also promised me that we have not seen anything yet. Those exposes on the Go family dealings in the bank, well, were just the appetizers.

BREAKTIME/ B3

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

11th MANAGING FAMILY CORPORATIONS

A Healthy Family in a Healthy Business

August 15 - 19, 2005 | AIM, Manila

AIM's Program on Managing Family Corporations considers three main forces affecting the health of family-owned enterprises: family dynamics, family business systems, and ownership. It establishes the connection among the three forces through the following: (a) identification and analysis of key issues and challenges unique to famcors in Asia; (b) application of management tools and exercises to help participants understand the family in the business; and, (c) development and implementation of improvements in the organization to ensure business sustainability and growth.

CONTENTS

Family Systems
- Genogram
- Individuation
- Power
- Managing Conflicts in the Family
- Family Theories

Business Systems
- Succession
- Professionalization and Corporate Culture
- Boards and Governance
- Managing Transitions

RECOMMENDED FOR
AIM recommends that family corporations be represented by at least two family members from different generations and at least one professional manager for maximum benefit and impact. Additional discounts are extended to famcors represented by three or more managers. However, individual enrollments are also acceptable.

Please fax this reply to 893-2031 or 893-2050
☐ I would like to register ☐ Send me a brochure on the 11th Famcor ☐ Send me a list of other programs
Name:
Company: Position:
Address:
Tel: Fax: E-mail:
Contact:
EXCELL Marketing Group: Jane Manlapig | Yola Genuino | Raul Senedrin
Tel: 892-4011 loc. 228, 526, 166; Fax: 893-2031, 893-2050; E-mail: excell@dataserve.aim.edu.ph

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Prof. Ma. Virginia B. Quintos-Gonzales has been the research champion of the Managing Family Corporations Program in AIM. She has been Program Director of the Famcor Program since it was launched in 1998. Prof. Gonzales holds a bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of the Philippines (1983) and a Master in Business Administration from Ateneo Graduate School of Business (1992). She earned her Professional Diploma in Pastoral Counseling and Family Ministries (CEFAM), Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo de Manila University (2004). She is currently taking her Ph.D. in Organizational Development at the Southeast Asian Interdisciplinary Development Institute (SAIDI).

DISTINGUISHED FACULTY
Prof. Jacinto Gavino, Jr., Ph.D.
Prof. Francisco L. Roman, Jr.
Prof. Milagros Du-Lagrosa
Prof. Felipe B. Alfonso
Prof. Juan A. Kanapi, Ph.D.
Prof. Horacio M. Borromeo, Jr.
Prof. Teodoro Ma. P. Dizon

AIM EXECUTIVE EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING CENTER
Joseph R. McMicking Campus, 123 Paseo de Roxas, 1260 Makati City, Philippines www.aim.edu.ph

EQUIS

Government of Canada Gouvernement du Canada
Embassy of Canada Ambassade du Canada

EMBASSY OF CANADA
is seeking for a
Community Coordinator

The Community Coordinator is responsible for services under a number of categories. Information and Referral Services includes responding to request for information from families arriving from Canada, orienting newly-arrived families and providing welcome kits, maintaining a small library of tourist brochures, other reference materials and maintaining a list of community resources such as babysitters, household help, etc. Another category is Community Activities where the Community Coordinator proposes a calendar of events such as workshops, round table discussions, Terry Fox Run, welcome party, etc. The Community Service Newsletter category involves coordinating, drafting and publishing a monthly newsletter for the Embassy community. Other services include organizing fund raising activities to support community functions and updating of the Embassy bulleting board.

Interested applicants should have lived in Manila for at least 12 months, should be knowledgeable of Manila and the Philippines including basic Tagalog, fluent in English and/or French. Contract period is from August 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006.

For more information on this position and details on how to apply, please contact

PERSONNEL OFFICE
Embassy of Canada
E-mail Address: manil-hr@international.gc.ca
Phone Number: 857-9000
RE: Community Coordinator
* All applications must be IN no later than Wednesday, 16h00 July 20, 2005.

Rice output seen missing target

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE DEPARTMENT of Agriculture is expecting the country's rice production this year to fall short of the target.

Based on a survey conducted by the Bureau of Agriculture Statistics, production will likely reach only 14.75 million metric tons.

Outgoing Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap said this was lower than the target of 15.1 million metric tons but was 2 percent higher than last year's production of 14.4 million MT.

Yap said farmers planted earlier and chose to use early maturing in-bred rice varieties to avoid the typhoons that were expected to hit between October and November. Their yields, however, are expected to fall below desired levels due to lack of water and lower use of fertilizers.

A National Irrigation Administration (NIA) survey showed that only 59 percent of the areas programmed for planting had been irrigated by the end of June.

Farmers reduced their use of fertilizers due to the rising prices of the input. Fertilizer prices this year have increased by 30-40 percent from 2004 levels. This is seen to contribute to the reduction of the farm yields, Agriculture Rice Program Director Frisco Malabanan said in another interview.

Malabanan said the occurrence of the El Niño phenomenon from January to July resulted in inadequate water supply in most of the dams and run-off river irrigation systems.

El Niño refers to an occasional weather anomaly characterized by extreme heat and drought.

Malabanan further pointed out that an ongoing repair of the canals and tunnels in the Upper Pampanga River Irrigation System (UPRIIS) delayed the release of water from the area, affecting about 42,000 hectares in Nueva Ecija.

The DA is coordinating with local government units to provide area-specific interventions such as the use of zinc sulfate to increase yield levels.

The DA is also promoting cost-reducing techniques such as the integrated pest management (IPM) and Tipid Abono Balanced Fertilization Scheme.

PAPER SHREDDERS
3 YRS. WARRANTY* on Cutting Blades for units valued P10,000 & up
intimus
Highly RECOMMENDED by the World Intelligence Organization
KEEP YOUR SECRETS, SECRET!

PAPER MONSTER	155 *	280 *	SIMPLEX SE *	502 MHS *
6 mm Stripcut	4 mm Stripcut	4 x 28 mm Crosscut	1.9 mm & 3.8 mm Stripcut	0.8 x 12 mm Crosscut
P3,500	P9,950	P29,950	P27,950	P89,950

A VITAL PART OF YOUR SECURITY.
EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR:
ELITE MACHINES, INC.
www.elitemachinesinc.com
Elite Building, 20 Araneta Ave. Ext., Quezon City, Connecting all departments 4110089 4110109 7328045 7328050 7328055 · 7328061 · 7328063 · 7328064
G/F LRDC Bldg., 22 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City 8877238 /56 /68 /80 /85 /96 8880698
Rm. 301 Pacific Bldg., 460 Quintin Paredes corner Gandara Sts., Binondo, Manila 2476012 • 2474030 /31 /32 /33 Fax: 2473892
Esperu Building, 33 Gen. Maxilom Ave., Cebu City (032) 2336711 to 16 Fax: (032) 2336718 or 25
GOLDSTAR
Door 2, Lua Bldg., Quirino Ave. cor. J.P. Laurel St., Davao City
Tel. (082) 2270321-23 Fax: (082) 2270321

Delay in signing of RP-Japan trade deal seen

By Ronnel W. Domingo

TALKS on an economic partnership agreement between the Philippines and Japan are on the final stretch but the deal signing may be delayed beyond September as negotiations focus on fine details, according to the officer in charge of the Department of Trade and Industry.

Thomas G. Aquino, a DTI senior undersecretary, said the issues that were taking the time of the negotiators included the following: the pace of tariff reduction on vehicles and the number of workers that would be allowed to move between the two countries.

"As things are turning out, there might be a slight delay," Aquino said.

He said various concerned industries needed to be consulted on various issues, which was taking much time.

As for tariff removal on vehicle imports, Aquino said this had yet to be brought up with the Tariff Commission although the local industry wanted a gradual removal of duties as opposed to Japan's position seeking immediate removal.

Still, Aquino said he was confident a Japan-Philippines EPA could be signed within the year. The deal would have to be ratified by Congress.

He said local business stood to gain from a JPEPA as Japanese companies would be taking advantage of business opportunities in the country through tie-ups with Filipino firms.

He dispelled reports that the proposed JPEPA would shut out Filipino investments in their own land as a result of the National Treatment provision that aimed to give "special treatment" to Japanese investors.

Included in the chapter on investment was the performance requirement prohibitions that clarify the Philippine government's existing regulations for Japanese and other foreign investors, he said.

The Philippine negotiating team is very careful in bargaining with their counterpart to ensure that the final EPA abides by Philippine laws.

PLDT cut debt by $100M in Q2

PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. has reduced its debts by about $100 million in the second quarter, or only half of the $200 million paid by the company in the first quarter.

PLDT president Napoleon Nazareno said that the company was still determined to accelerate debt reduction.

"I think the debt pay down is largely dependent on the timing of maturities. I think we have a high level of maturing debts in the third quarter," Nazareno said in an interview.

PLDT, which is 15 percent owned by NTT Communications and 24 percent by Hong Kong's First Pacific Co. Ltd., has about $1.7 billion in debts that it intended to reduce aggressively in the next two years.

Under its debt reduction program, PLDT aims to cut its obligations to $1 billion by the end of 2006.

For this year, PLDT will pay at least $540 million in debts.

Prepaying debts will allow PLDT to save on interests and minimize currency risks. The telecom giant settled last Dec. 20 a $106-million debt ahead of schedule.

In the meantime, Globe Telecom Inc. said its debt reduction strategy was also on track. PLDT and Globe officials said their companies were not affected by the outlook downgrade by Fitch Ratings, Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service.

Breaktime

From page B2

More and louder explosives, we must expect in coming days, they told me.

I even heard that a member of the Go family is willing to spill the beans. Really, I can hardly wait for the coming bombshells.

Part of it involves a foreign national, a certain Tony Conway, who sits in the board, getting ex-pat pay and ex-pat perks. A member of the Go family said that he has the goods on this Conway. *Abangan!*

But still, my heart bleeds for the good old man Peter Go Pailan, who is the "kuya" of the Go family. I don't know if he is willing to get involved in court cases.

For court cases are what the government side, plus some other stockholders, are preparing as a family treat. Until next time!

ISUZU
BACK 2 BACK Xtras

Enjoy back to back excitement with ISUZU's extra giveaways! Get thousands worth of **FREE SM Gift Checks and FREE Insurance coverage*** when you buy any ISUZU D-MAX, Crosswind and IPV from any authorized dealer nationwide. Back up now to the ISUZU dealer nearest you. Hurry! Promo period is from July 4-August 31, 2005 only.

IPV
Isuzu Passenger Van
D-MAX
ISUZU D-MAX
XUV
ISUZU Crosswind

*See full mechanics below.

Mechanics:

1. For every outright cash or financing purchase of any ISUZU D-MAX, Crosswind, IPV variant a corresponding 1 year Comprehensive Insurance and/or SM Gift Checks will be given away for FREE.
2. Get FREE P10K worth of SM Gift Checks and FREE 1 year Comprehensive Insurance when you buy any D-MAX 4x4 AT/MT, Crosswind XUVi AT/MT and Crosswind XUV AT vehicle.
3. Get FREE P10K worth of SM Gift Checks when you buy a Crosswind XUV MT.
4. FREE P5K worth of SM Gift Checks for each purchase of D-MAX 4x2 AT/MT, Crosswind XT/XL, or IPV.
5. SM Gift Checks are accepted in all SM stores & affiliated shops, but are not convertible to cash. SM affiliated specialty shops in all its 23 stores nationwide include Our Home, Watson's, Toy Kingdom and Ace Hardware.
6. SM GCs not claimed from the selling dealer within 60 days from vehicle sale date will be forfeited in favor of Isuzu Philippines Corporation, and with the prior approval of DTI.

Per DTI NCR Permit number 3821. Series of 2005.

METRO MANILA ALABANG Tel: (02) 8071788 • COMMONWEALTH Tel: (02) 9522760 • EDSA Tel: (02) 4104837 to 38 • MAKATI Tel: (02) 8179995 • MANILA Tel: (02) 5624601 to 15 • PASIG Tel: (02) 6713434 • QUEZON AVENUE Tel: (02) 9267482 • LUZON BATANGAS Tel: (043) 7781227 • BULACAN Tel: (044) 6703352 • CABANATUAN Tel: (044) 4638215 • CAVITE Tel: (02) 7505629 • ISABELA Tel: (078) 6522030 • PAMPANGA Tel: (045) 9617880 • SAN PABLO Tel: (049) 5629996 • VISMIN BACOLOD Tel: (034) 4412050 • CAGAYAN DE ORO Tel: (088) 8561892 • DAGUPAN Tel: (075) 5234825 • DAVAO Tel: (082) 2973344 • MANDAUE/CEBU Tel: (032) 3483090

Manufactured and distributed by: ISUZU PHILIPPINES CORPORATION Tel. No. (049) 5410224 • Fax Nos. 8420202, (049) 5410333

ISUZU
Your responsible partner
www.isuzuphil.com

Australian group asks court to bar Ongpin group from ETPI

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

AN AUSTRALIAN group has asked the Makati Regional Trial Court to bar an information technology firm identified with former Trade Minister Roberto V. Ongpin from buying into Eastern Telecommunications Phils. Inc.

ETPI director and former chair Roger Buckeridge said in the complaint filed before Branch 61 of the Makati RTC that the transfer of ETPI shares to Ongpin's ISM Communication Corp. was prohibited as Ongpin was closely associated with the late President Ferdinand Marcos.

ISM on Tuesday agreed to acquire 17.7 percent in ETPI through a share-swap agreement with Aerocom Investors & Managers Inc., one of the minority shareholders of ETPI.

Buckeridge represents AGN Philippines Inc. (AGNP), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Australian Gigahertz Network International Pty. Ltd. that owns 40 percent of ETPI.

AGNP is entitled to two board seats in ETPI.

Buckeridge argued through lawyers that the Presidential Commission on Good Government has expressed that it would abide by the policy that "recovered ill-gotten wealth should not be offered to former (Marcos) associates."

They also said that the PCGG votes, which paved the way for a due diligence by ISM, violated the guidelines established by the Supreme Court in a case dated April 30, 2003.

ISM had been in talks with the AGN Group to acquire AGNP's 40-percent interest in ETPI, but no deal was struck.

ISM also expressed interest last year to buy the government's stake in ETPI.

Lawyers also claimed a conspiracy between two PCGG directors in ETPI.

In a letter earlier addressed to PCGG nominees Basilio Cruz and Emiliano Jurado last June 10, AGNP legal counsel Andrew Inocencio wrote that the two PCFF nominees "voted to remove and replace, without due notice or just cause" then ETPI chair Roger Buckeridge and the president and chief executive officer Nenita Lim-Cruz, "contrary to morals, good customs or public policy."

Inocencio claimed that such action was tainted with "manifest partiality, evident bad faith or gross inexecusable negligence" which caused injury to AGNP and the government.

It also favored the group led by Ongpin who wants to gain control of ETPI, Inocencio said earlier.

Government has two seats in ETPI's five man board since it oversees the 20 percent sequestered shares of Polygon Investors and Managers Inc. in ETPI disputed since the Marcos administration.

Aside from the 20 percent of Polygon, government directly owns 10 percent in ETPI representing surrendered assets from the Marcos period.

Another seat is held by a Filipino director, Pablo Lobregat, throughAerocom.

The remaining 10 percent is held by Smart Communications but it has no appointed director in ETPI.

Firms brace for lower profits, weak peso

From page B1

quarter foreign exchange gains worth P2.4 billion almost erased.

But company officials said the country's largest telecommunications group had hedges covering about 50 percent of its total debt of $2.67 billion at the end of the first quarter.

"It's easy to be very negative," said Jojo Gonzales, managing director of Philippine Equity Partners. "But realistically, with the exception of the exchange rate, there's no material impact on companies yet."

BNP's Bancod said the average gearing level of listed firms had fallen to around 66 percent this year from 77 percent in 2004 and 80 percent in 2003.

A FLOOR trader monitors share prices at the Philippine Stock Exchange in Makati financial district.

REUTERS

Higher interest rates—after the central bank raised its benchmark rates by 25 basis points in April and increased the reserve requirements of banks by 2 percentage points last week—will increase corporate borrowing costs.

Rising electricity and oil prices, plus higher labor costs after a government-mandated increase in the minimum wage, is likely to hurt consumer firms such as San Miguel Corp and Jollibee Foods Corp.

"I think costs are moving up faster than selling prices," Bancod said. "This is putting some pressure on margins.

Eventually, they will pass it on but this will only happen when costs start to stabilize."

The outlook downgrades will put pressure only on firms that plan to raise funds via the debt market, analysts said.

San Miguel, in the midst of a regional expansion, is considering a bond issue of up to $350 million to refinance an existing loan.

But Gonzales said San Miguel may simply delay the bond issue because its loans maturing in 2005 do not come due until toward the end of the year. *Reuters*

Crisis divides influential business group

From page B1

board should have called a general assembly before weighing in "on a matter so crucial to the nation's political and economic stability."

"Considering the 100 or 150 members who are active in MBC, I believe we represent a significant part of the organization," he said. "After all, we are at least triple the number of those in the board of trustees."

"This is not just a matter of who is in the majority, those (who signed the open letter to the MBC board) are not only business executives—they are owners of corporations," Martinez said.

MBC executive director Guillermo Luz said in a separate interview that the group of 35 "ignores the core issue, which is about the (Garci) tapes, the ability to lead, the search for truth and the level of distrust" directed at Malacañang.

"(They are) turning the matter into an organizational issue but this is off-tangent," Luz said. "Far bigger issues (are upon us), the country is in trouble."

Still, Luz said the MBC was espousing respect for disagreement and dissenting opinions. "We have private channels of communication and we are treating this as an internal matter to the MBC."

The controversial statement was read last Friday during a joint press briefing with Finex and civil society groups hours after 10 senior Malacañang officials—including majority of the economic managers—quit their posts and asked the President to resign.

Also last Friday, the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry refrained from calling for the President's resignation but said any changes in government should be done within the rule of law. PCCI, a staunch ally of Ms Arroyo, said "we cannot force (the President to resign), we support the constitutional process, including impeachment proceedings." In a statement, the Management Association of the Philippines asked government leaders "to demonstrate statesmanship, which to us means acting in the interest of future generations of Filipinos."

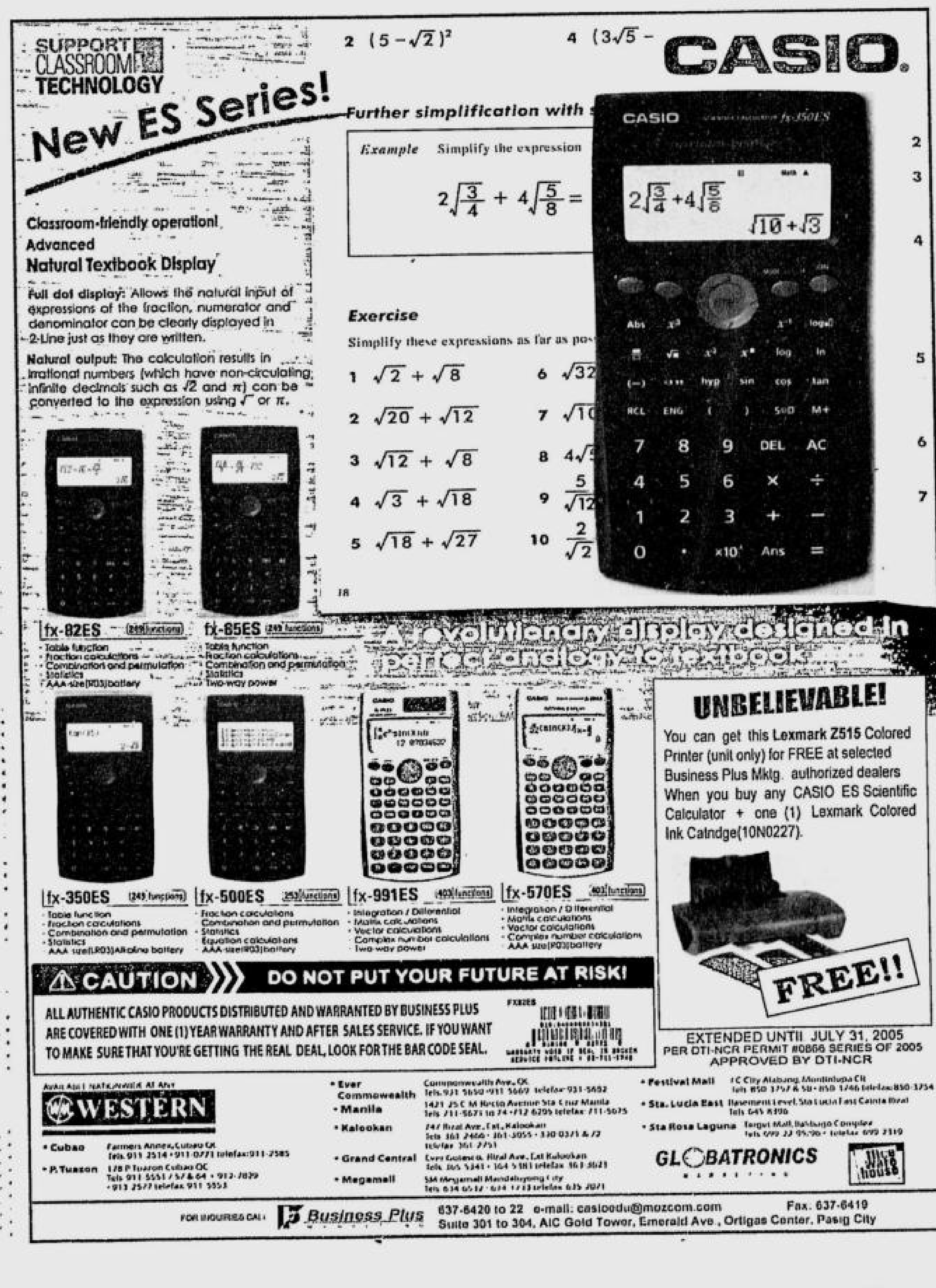
"Given the challenges (the country faces), the events of the past weeks have, in our view, seriously impaired the ability of the Presidency to address these problems," MAP said.

The group echoed the MBC statement saying the longer the President stays in office under a cloud of doubt and mistrust, the greater the damage to the economy and and the greater the vulnerability to forces seeking extra-constitutional means to grab power.

"We acknowledge that the President has achieved commendable progress in many of her programs," MAP said. "To preserve her legacy, she must now act with statesmanship and relinquish the Presidency to her constitutionally-mandated successor."

At the same time, the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines urged Filipinos to resolve the crisis at the earliest possible time, within the rule of law and the Philippine Constitution.

"Political stability is an essential requisite for a strong business environment," Amcham said. "We regret that a political crisis has recently developed (here) which severely impacts on the ability of the current administration to govern effectively."



SUPPORT CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY
New ES Series!
CASIO.
Classroom-friendly operation!
Advanced Natural Textbook Display
Full dot display: Allows the natural input of expressions of the fraction, numerator and denominator can be clearly displayed in 2-Line just as they are written.
Natural output: The calculation results in irrational numbers (which have non-circulating infinite decimals such as √2 and π) can be converted to the expression using √ or π.
fx-82ES (249 functions) · Table function · Fraction calculations · Combination and permutation · Statistics · AAA-size(R03)battery
fx-85ES (249 functions) · Table function · Fraction calculations · Combination and permutation · Statistics · Two-way power
fx-350ES (249 functions) · Table function · Fraction calculations · Combination and permutation · Statistics · AAA size(LR03)Alkaline battery
fx-500ES (252 functions) · Fraction calculations · Combination and permutation · Statistics · Equation calculations · AAA-size(R03)battery
fx-991ES (403 functions) · Integration / Differential · Matrix calculations · Vector calculations · Complex number calculations · Two-way power
fx-570ES (403 functions) · Integration / Differential · Matrix calculations · Vector calculations · Complex number calculations · AAA size(R03)battery
A revolutionary display designed in perfect analogy to textbook
UNBELIEVABLE!
You can get this Lexmark Z515 Colored Printer (unit only) for FREE at selected Business Plus Mktg. authorized dealers When you buy any CASIO ES Scientific Calculator + one (1) Lexmark Colored Ink Catndge(10N0227).
FREE!!
EXTENDED UNTIL JULY 31, 2005
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT #0866 SERIES OF 2005
APPROVED BY DTI-NCR
CAUTION DO NOT PUT YOUR FUTURE AT RISK!
ALL AUTHENTIC CASIO PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTED AND WARRANTED BY BUSINESS PLUS ARE COVERED WITH ONE (1) YEAR WARRANTY AND AFTER SALES SERVICE. IF YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU'RE GETTING THE REAL DEAL, LOOK FOR THE BAR CODE SEAL.
WESTERN
• Cubao • P. Tuazon • Ever Commonwealth • Manila • Kalookan • Grand Central • Megamall • Festival Mall • Sta. Lucia East • Sta Rosa Laguna
GLOBATRONICS
FOR INQUIRIES CALL: Business Plus 637-6420 to 22 e-mail: casioedu@mozcom.com Fax. 637-6419
Suite 301 to 304, AIC Gold Tower, Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of July 13, 2005)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	31.5	32	31	31.5	381,500
Bank of the Phil. Islands	47	47.5	46.5	47	2,517,600
Citystate Savings Bank	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	500
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	50	50	49	49	153,200
International Exch. Bank	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	22,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	27	27.5	27	27	1,122,800
Philippine National Bank	41.5	41.5	41	41.5	44,500
Security Bank Corp.	25.5	26	25.5	25.5	135,500
Union Bank of the Phil.	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	26,600
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
First Abacus Financial	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	10,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	2755	2785	2755	2785	320
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	90,000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1975	1985	1975	1980	1,700
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	11.5	11.5	11.25	11.25	10,100
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	1	1	0.99	1	1,140,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	800	810	800	800	68,590
Ipeople Inc.	3.55	3.65	3.55	3.65	53,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.0525	0.055	0.049	0.049	11,600,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	2.18	2.2	2.18	2.2	50,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	2.55	2.6	2.55	2.6	784,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1565	1580	1565	1575	326,040
Philweb Corp.	0.015	0.017	0.015	0.017	108,000,000
POWER, ENERGY & OTHER UTILITIES					
Manila Electric Co. A	14.25	14.5	14.25	14.5	91,300
Manila Electric Co. B	23.5	23.5	23	23.25	89,600
Manila Water Co. Inc.	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.1	5,059,000
Petron Corp.	2.85	2.85	2.75	2.8	1,664,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	1.06	1.08	1.06	1.08	70,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.4	937,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.64	230,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.55	0.6	0.55	0.58	610,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	2.75	2.8	2.75	2.8	452,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	12,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	2,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	5,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	30.5	31	29.5	30	58,800
Pancake House Inc.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	3,000
San Miguel Corp. A	60	60.5	60	60.5	39,300
San Miguel Corp. B	92.5	92.5	92.5	92.5	104,700
Vitarich Corp.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	760,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	23,000,000
Ayala Corp.	280	280	280	280	114,850
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	4.75	4.75	4.7	4.75	830,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	2,000,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1,367,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	37,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.5	0.58	0.5	0.54	2,500,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	10.75	10.75	10.5	10.5	1,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1	1.02	0.99	1	4,411,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	200,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.205	0.225	0.205	0.225	350,000
DMCI Holdings, Inc.	2.36	2.36	2.3	2.3	225,000
Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp.	5.7	6.1	5.7	6	9,949,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	40	40.5	39.5	40.5	267,300
House of Investments Inc.	0.99	1	0.99	1	90,000
Ionics Inc.	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16	153,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	50,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.18	1.18	1.16	1.18	1,466,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	8,280,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.17	0.175	0.17	0.175	6,020,000
SM Investments Corp.	235	235	231	235	615,660
South China Resources Inc.	0.68	0.7	0.68	0.7	370,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	1,200,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.12	0.14	0.12	0.12	3,150,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.18	0.185	0.18	0.185	300,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Macondray Plastics Inc.	2	2	2	2	15,000
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	980,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.96	0.96	0.9	0.92	11,420,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.06	1.1	1.06	1.1	250,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp.(Pdr)	11.5	11.5	11.25	11.25	76,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series P	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	7.2	7.3	7.1	7.2	4,522,000
C&P Homes Inc.	0.23	0.235	0.23	0.235	2,690,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	410,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.34	1.36	1.34	1.34	9,363,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	370,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.41	0.42	0.41	0.42	20,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	200,000
Philippine Estates Corp.	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	200,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	500,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7	7	7	7	14,236,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	0.7	0.74	0.7	0.74	60,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	11,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	20,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.31	0.31	0.3	0.3	1,140,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.33	0.33	0.31	0.32	2,160,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	30,400,000
Omico Corp.	0.0055	0.006	0.0055	0.006	102,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.77	700,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	170,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	27	28.5	27	28.5	84,900
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.21	0.24	0.21	0.24	990,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	100,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	100,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	160,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	3,650,000

DISCLOSURES

UEM Development Phils. Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on July 29, 3 p.m. at the 1/F Corporate Business Center, 151 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City. Stockholders of record as of July 11 are entitled to notice and vote at the meeting.

* * *

ABS-CBN Holdings Corp. disclosed that its Philippine Deposit Receipts agent has received notices from its shareholders for the exercise of rights equivalent to 310,000 PDRs for the issuance of 310,000 ABS-CBN common shares. The reduction by 310,000 PDRs will take effect on July 13, bringing the number of PDRs listed to a total of 268.05 million PDRs.

* * *

TRANS-ASIA Oil and Energy Development Corp. disclosed that the company, together with the Department of Energy, in consortium with Alcorn Gold Resources Corp. and PetroEnergy Resources Corp., completed on July 8 the execution of a petroleum service contract covering a 444,000-hectare area in the East Visayas region. The distribution of participating interests is: Alcorn Gold, 46.60 percent; Trans-Asia, 33.34 percent and Petro Energy, 20.06 percent.

* * *

EQUITABLE PCI Bank Inc. disclosed that it has 727 million shares of common stock outstanding and amount of debt outstanding. The forum for validation of proxies is scheduled on July 14, 4 p.m. at the Amorsolo Rm., Sign of Anvil, 5th Flr., Equitable PCI Bank, Inc. Tower I, Makati City.

* * *

LODESTAR Investment Holdings Corp.'s board approved the following resolutions: writing off of the company's mining assets and properties or claims in the financial statements of the company; writing off the company's liability for advances and/or loans with Indo Pacific Securities Ltd. worth P19.675 million; reconciliation of the books of accounts; holding a delinquency sale not later than 30 days or more than 60 days from the date of meeting at the principal office at 10 a.m., and the authority of Manny Ocampo or his representative to deal with any and all buyers of delinquent stocks.

Compiled by Erika A. Sarmiento, PDI Research

CURRENCIES

July 13, 2005 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.816727	1.000000	56.1240
Japan	Yen	0.007367	0.009020	0.5062
United Kingdom	Pound	1.452140	1.778000	99.7885
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.105005	0.128568	7.2158
Switzerland	Franc	0.642839	0.787092	44.1748
Canada	Dollar	0.678908	0.831255	46.6534
Singapore	Dollar	0.484532	0.593261	33.2962
Australia	Dollar	0.617703	0.756315	42.4474
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.166499	2.652661	148.8779
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.217794	0.266667	14.9664
Brunei	Dollar	0.483099	0.591506	33.1977
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000083	0.000102	0.0057
Thailand	Baht	0.019570	0.023961	1.3448
UAE	Dirham	0.222372	0.272272	15.2810
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.224400	68.7182
Argentina	Peso	0.284475	0.348311	19.5486
Brazil	Real	0.349626	0.428082	24.0257
Denmark	Kroner	0.134107	0.164201	9.2156
India	Rupee	0.018793	0.023010	1.2914
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.214940	0.263172	14.7703
Mexico	New Peso	0.076241	0.093349	5.2391
New Zealand	Dollar	0.560284	0.686012	38.5017
Norway	Kroner	0.126540	0.154935	8.6956
Pakistan	Rupee	0.013708	0.016784	0.9420
South Africa	Rand	0.125650	0.153846	8.6345
Korea	Won	0.000788	0.000965	0.0542
Sweden	Kroner	0.106142	0.129960	7.2939
Syria	Pound	0.015733	0.019264	1.0812
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.025667	0.031427	1.7638
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000381	0.000466	0.0262

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 897-8425 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 897-8425
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5224406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P245 per column centimeter
P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays 12:00 noon Day before publication
Sundays 12:00 noon every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Skin Clinic Rapid
Tx Comp Lab Tel. 8175071
Matrinco 2178 P. Tamo Makati

PERSONAL

COSMETOLOGY

WHITENING CAPS P1500 PINK Nips / Lips /Cheeks Cream P800 09189235216

MASSAGE

ASK BELL MALE MASSEUR (0921)6364794

Athlete Massage 8327363

•Bachelor's 4546275•

BEAUTIE'S MASSAGE
MLA:6857973 CEBU: (032) 2562187

BOY'S MASSAGE
MLA:4587993 CEBU: (032) 2593809

Candy 8971506;09212085309

GENTLEHANDS 453-3803•

GIRL MASSAGE
719-7066

★HUMAN TOUCH 4541084

•HOLLYWOOD 456-0799•

Karisma 4215996

MASSAGE 8547144 VICTOR

MASSAGE RELAXATION
CALL ROSA 09286115348

★Mr BODY PHYSIQUE ★
11A Kamias QC 4350978

PINOY HUNK 0927-8481636

★★ Mr EARTH SPA ★★
123B Kamuning rd QC 4102182

RELAXING MASSAGE 8978214

THAI Msge Lic 0921-7569278

REFLEXOLOGY

Edward 7289285 09195367404

★ FEELS GOOD 4127758 ★

HEARTTHROB SPA & REFLEX
779 Aurora Cbao 4128104

Jojo HMS 0920-8635511

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

A'A MAID & YAYA 4386920

All arnd Maid Yaya 4399290

HI PAY MAID, YAYA 732-67-50

Best maids aa yaya 4547542

Direct Maids Yaya Int'l Cook 7289060

EXP MAIDS w/ NBI 4398468

Help Agency 5328376 • 5321947

H'WORKING MAIDS 421-3828

Trusted Maids w/NBI 4392490

Trusted Maids Yaya H'Boy 7572089

LIPAT BAHAY

•731-6833•LIPAT

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

L-BAHAY 8383742/09208449984

Lipat 6817623 ★ 6817136

P1200/TRIP 742-14-57

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

QUEZON CITY

★ KATIPUNAN EXT ★
LA3,648 Comml Main Road
P9,500/m² 0918-9235216

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

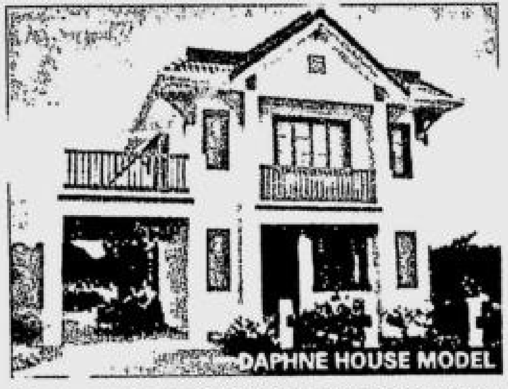
P1.1M 2STRY 2BR 8054686

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CORTE BELLA

The Metro Homes Division of
FILINVEST LAND, INC.



158 sqm. usable floor area · 3 BR · 2 T&B · Balcony & Roofdeck · Carport

Near UP, Ateneo, Miriam & various malls

GRAND OPEN HOUSE ON JULY 16, 9AM - 5PM

THE TROPICS
Marcos Highway, Cainta, Rizal

Call us at 721-0771 • 724-7543
Bank and In-house payment available

HOUSE & LOT

MANILA

SAN ANDRES MANILA
Townhse/3sty/3br/3tb/ P3.860M
Tel 8903461 loc 34

MARIKINA

Provident Vil nr Ateneo 413m² P5M neg 413m² w/3hes nr gate Rush 9488240/9338423

PASIG

GREENPARK nr Mall/Lrt/3BR 2.2M 20%dp: 0917-851-1193

QUEZON CITY

2sty 3B H&L 300sm big 10M garden w/ gazebo fulfur Our Ladys Court Tpura TS 9310172 / (0916)440-0987

•KAMIAS # 11K-I cor. K-6th.•
9210255 9219967 9209822

PROVINCIAL

2STY 4BR 1CR LA262sqm Sta. Cruz, Naga City near UNC, Ateneo, LCC, Call 054-2995340 • 2992827 • 0920-2977839 •0920-9125664

CAVITE

MOLINO 500k 09187141462

LAGUNA

Laguna Bel-Air Sta Rosa Low D/P Price Range P1.3M to 2M Edna 0917-8312369 Mariel 0917-6215864

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

10%DP TO MOVE IN
Exec Res. Condo Nr. Makati 2-4Br
0917-9216905 ; 873-6426

1.3 M NR MAKATI/ ORTIGAS
12T/mo or 4 yrs 0% Int
10% DP Move-In 2-4 BR
Bank & Pag-ibig Ok 0920-6348545

1.3M C5 Nr The Fort
12T/mo. or 4Yrs. No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR 15min Fr Mkti 0917-8169849

★LEASE TO OWN ★
GREENBELT MKTI
P20,000 / MONTH
867-8913-17 • 09178161934
867-8861 • 0917-8007452

MAKATI STUDIO
RENT/SALE BNEW READY
5756976/8941051/5757051

ORIENTAL GARDENS MAKATI Studio 1/2/3BR Condo 20%DOWN Only to Move-in BIG Discount Low Mnthly Tel No. 7581929 • 0920-4763226

Oriental Gardens Makati 45.5m² 2.7&up Roselyn 0920-3843962

RENT TO OWN CONDO B-NEW 1.3M 12Tmo 2-4br Nr Market' 0915-5799513 • 0915-2728898

CONDO/TWNHSE

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

MANILA

Pre-Sell Roxas Blvd 2007 No DP 40K/mo. or 20%DP 23K/mo. 0920-9602940 Bay Garden

MANDALUYONG

MANDALUYONG NR SHAW BnewTwnhse:3sty-3br/3-4tb:mds:rm/1-2grge P3.645M up 8903461

QUEZON CITY

★LEASE TO OWN ★
QC Php 15T / MO
NEAR AYALA HTS UP ATNEO
867-8913-17 • 867-8861

SAN JUAN

★LEASE TO OWN ★
8 Wack Wack
533-3206 • 867-8913-17

OTHER AREAS

Boracay Condotel 3.8M
EARN P520T/Yr. ROI 5Yrs. P75T/mo. or 1Yr. No Interest Fully Furnished 0917-8313226

APARTMENT

CAVITE

3 UNITS DIRECT BUYER (0917)624-3900 or (0917)623-3900 REMVELLE SAGANA ST BACOOR CAVITE

LOT

QUEZON CITY

GRAND VILLAS Top Row w/view back ATENEO LOTS hse & lots avble 426-5650 929-1832 • 0919-8212235

★KATIPUNAN Ext Resl lot nr UP Ateneo 204 to 408m² P8,500/m² 0918-9235216★

LAGUNA

• RUSH!!!Best Buy •
Mamplasan, Binan, Laguna LA176sqm P500K + Asme. Balnce DBO. 0917-8997547 Jonas

MEMORIAL LOT

Garden of Gethsemane
ANTIPOLO
637-3082 ; 634-0309

FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

18.5HAS. SAN ISIDRO MONTALBAN • Tel. 410-5366

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

ALABANG

141 Batangas West
Ayala Alabang 5BR 5TB
w/s-pool 0926-7102225

CONDO/TWNHSE

MANILA

CONDO NR UST 9155835289

MANDALUYONG

CONDO FOR RENT FULLY FURNISHED 09283601318 FRED

PASIG

MEGAPLAZA STUDIO BARE P11T/mo Call 8255399

APARTMENT

MANILA

Samp 6459302 - 7841746

QUEZON CITY

BNEW studio PROJ.2
4342604 / 0919-2876641

Cubao P8T 2sty 2BR 9121163

WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

QC Whse 230@22T 4563243

ROOM & BOARD

BF P'QUE P2001 8275345

•FURNISH PASAY 8872865•

Windsor Inn Maceda St near 7-11 Dimasalang, Mla. 7118679, 7836781

BEDSPACE

Mkti nr Ayala P1T Ldy 8974697

BUSINESS RENTAL

MAKATI nr BUENDIA PTAMO 38/148/185/M² 1st class 8903461 loc 34 or 19 ofc hrs

LOAN & MORTGAGE

1.4% MONTHLY 8976644-46
LAS PINAS 8054326 / 6342
QUEZON CITY 3730239-40
CAINTA/PASIG 2401300/3500

BUSINESS . DOCTOR 524-3197

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

4-storey building best suited for CALL CENTER Near Sucat Interchange Please call - 8259550;8268913;8267669

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

CARLINES
SPECIAL RATES VAN, CARS, BUS
8131975-76 0917-8334555

ABC RENT A CAR
HI-ACE • STAREX
L300 • URVAN • REVO ETC.
AND ALL CAR BRANDS/TYPES
MLA : 536-8822 • 303-9789
Q.C.: 426-2278 • 426-4084

CARS FOR RENT

CarsVans CoasterBus 422-9296

P800/L3 9136710 / 4333682

RENT-A-VAN 6424405

TOYCO CARS SUV VANS Rental
Dly Wkly Monthly Rental
Mnl. 8023021-22 CEBU (032)
3451802 DAVAO (082)2358375

CAR LOAN

1.5% Auto Easy 5344441

1.5% Auto Express 5221001-02

1.5% Car Loan 6560140

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

1.5% CARLOAN 788-0361

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

1.5% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

2% w/o taking car 7880183-84

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/out taking car 5315577

2% w/out taking car 6567685

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BILLIARDS

26T New Compit Sr Impld 7767507

PETS

DOG TRAINER 0919-7219020

PHIL. DOG SCHOOL
Call: 721-37-36

WANTED TO BUY

A NAME YOU CAN TRUST!
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
& OTHER SWISS WATCHES
DIAMONDS / JEWELRY
HI-APPRAISAL/FAST CASH
REPAIR/POLISH ANY WATCH
T#804-0484 • 834-2886

'PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE'
LOW 5% INTEREST
BUY • SELL • PAWN
SWISS WATCHES
AGENCIA de MAKATI-8897956
SECONDO AYALA CENTER-8940282
OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5646593 5897041
5633742 0917-8473744

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
0917-8884040 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

Migrating to Canada or Australia, please visit www.b4landing.com.

AUCTION SALE

MEYCAUAYAN-FILIPINAS Pawnshop, Alw Complex, Calvario, Meyc Bulacan. All unredeemed pledges of JANUARY 2005 will be auctioned on JULY 25, 8:30 am. - Lanuza & Sons-Auctioneer.
(PDI - JULY 14, 2005)

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Earn $2500/week not going abroad! Global currency trading 09196050890

L88EDC has TRANSFORMED & CHANGED the lives of many professionals into GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURS. www.L88edc.com

QC Carshop 500m² 8974697 35T

RTW Consign 09178830002

NEED SIDELINE?
P/F up to P20K/mo. 3762642 to 43

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

LOOKING FOR NANNY HAS A TOURIST VISA FOR THE U.S. PLEASE CALL OR TEXT (0928)4160052

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
PDIC Ayala Extension Office, R/L Administrative & Special Services Department
7th Floor, SSS Bldg., No. 6782 Ayala Ave. cor. Rufino St., Makati City 1226
www.pdic.gov.ph

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids will be accepted on July 28, 2005 (not later than 10:00 a.m.) at the PDIC Bidding Room, 9th Floor, SSS Building, No 6782 Ayala Ave. cor. Rufino St., Makati City for the sale on "AS IS" basis of the following real estate properties of closed banks under liquidation by PDIC. Prospective buyers are enjoined to inspect the following listed properties and to determine the unpaid real property taxes thereon before participating in the public bidding.

CODE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	TITLE / TD	MIN. BID PRICE (P)
PACIFIC BANKING CORPORATION				
pabc-05-07-1	La Union	500 sqm., residential lot with improvement, Brgy. Lingsat, San Fernando	TD 01-030-61233^{BE}	800,000.00
pabc-05-07-2	Las Piñas	280 sqm., residential lot, BF Almanza	81892^{AB}	1,760,000.00
pabc-05-07-3	Benguet	2,100 sqm., residential lot, Tacay Rd., Pinsao Proper, Baguio City	11761^{C}	5,250,000.00
RURAL BANK OF BUGALLON				
bugallon-05-07-4	Pangasinan	300sqm.& 25 sqm., residential lot w/ improvements, Poblacion, Aguilar	TD 1023^{ACEF}	150,000.00
PAIC SAVINGS AND MORTGAGE BANK				
paic-05-07-5	Rizal	570 sqm., residential lot, Maharlika Hills Subd., Brgy Dolores, Taytay	T-554588^{B}	1,425,000.00
paic-05-07-6	Rizal	782 sqm., residential lot, Maharlika Hills Subd., Brgy Dolores, Taytay	T-554589^{AB}	1,798,600.00
THRIFT SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION				
thrift-05-07-7	Nueva Ecija	240 sqm., residential lot, Villa Angelina, Sta Cruz, Zaragoza	NT-220050^{BF}	48,000.00
thrift-05-07-8	Nueva Ecija	328 sqm., residential lot, Villa Angelina, Sta Cruz, Zaragoza	NT-220051^{ABF}	72,160.00
HOMEOWNERS SAVINGS AND LOAN BANK				
homeslb-05-07-9	Rizal	276 sqm., residential, L-2, B8, Ph2, Grandvalley Subd., Angono	593248^{B}	496,800.00
homeslb-05-07-10	Rizal	196 sqm., residential, L-17, B34, Grandvalley Subd., Angono	567549^{B}	352,800.00
homeslb-05-07-11	Rizal	135 sqm., residential, L-26, B1, Grandvalley Subd., Angono	560875^{B}	270,000.00
homeslb-05-07-12	Rizal	11,883 sqm., rawland/subdivision lot, Sitio Mamungbian, Antipolo City	274595^{B}	891,225.00
homeslb-05-07-13	Benguet	290 sqm., residential, Outlook Drive, Baguio City	63304^{AD}	348,000.00
homeslb-05-07-14	Nueva Ecija	443 sqm., residential, San Jose Sur, Cabanatuan City	92578^{AB}	88,600.00
homeslb-05-07-15	Pangasinan	261 sqm., residential, Brgy. Bactad, Urdaneta	185653^{B}	130,500.00
homeslb-05-07-16	Bulacan	270 sqm., bank premises and commercial lot, Barrera St., Poblacion , Baliuag	T-71375^{CD}	9,330,150.00
FIRST PESO BANK				
fpeso-05-07-17	Pampanga	1,431 sqm., residential lot, Bo. San Mateo, Arayat	168560^{CF}	143,100.00
fpeso-05-07-18	Pampanga	420 sqm., residential lot, Dulong Santol, Porac	179383^{BF}	63,000.00
fpeso-05-07-19	Pampanga	168 sqm., residential lot, San Agustin, San Luis	181259^{BF}	16,800.00
fpeso-05-07-20	Tarlac	1,292 sqm., residential lot, Bo. Maliwalo, Tarlac City	122464^{CF}	387,600.00
fpeso-05-07-21	Rizal	300 sqm., residential lot, Kay Babae, Brgy. Dela Paz, Antipolo City	53829^{BF}	120,000.00
fpeso-05-07-22	Rizal	300 sqm., residential lot, Kay Babae, Brgy. Dela Paz, Antipolo City	53830^{BF}	120,000.00
fpeso-05-07-23	Rizal	296 sqm., residential lot, Kay Babae, Brgy. Dela Paz, Antipolo City	53831^{BF}	130,240.00
TG BANK (RURAL BANK SAN PABLO CITY, INC.)				
snpablo-05-07-24	Laguna	314 sqm. residential lot, Brgy. Sta. Catalina, San Pablo City	T-48753^{BF}	75,360.00
snpablo-05-07-25	Laguna	344 sqm. residential lot, Brgy Sta. Isabel, San Pablo City	T-48681^{BF}	144,480.00
snpablo-05-07-26	Laguna	623 sqm. residential lot, Brgy San Rafael, San Pablo City	T-57737^{BF}	809,900.00
snpablo-05-07-27	Laguna	180 sqm. residential lot w/ improvements, Brgy. San Lucas I, San Pablo City	T-55778^{BF}	108,000.00
snpablo-05-07-28	Laguna	180 sqm., residential lot w/ improvements, Brgy. San Lucas I, San Pablo City	T-55779^{BF}	108,000.00
snpablo-05-07-29	Laguna	108 sqm., residential lot, Brgy. San Marcos, San Pablo City	T-42971^{CF}	75,600.00
RURAL BANK OF CANLAON CITY INC.				
rbcanlaon-05-07-30	Negros Oriental	522 sqm.,bank premises in commercial land Corner J.P. Rizal St. & A. Mabini St. Poblacion, Canlaon City	T-445^{ABF}	574,200.00
ALL ASIA BANK CORPORATION				
aasiacor-05-07-31	South Cotabato	172 sqm., residential lot, Barrio Marbel, Koronadal	T-15176^{AC}	206,400.00
CRB DALAGUETE (CEBU), INC.				
crbdalaguete-05-07-32	Cebu .	416 sqm., residential, Poblacion, Dalaguete, Cebu	TD 22516^{ACEF}	100,200.00
CRB PANDAN				
crbpandan-05-07-33	Antique	606 sqm., commercial lot with building, Bagumbayan, Pandan	TD 005-0223^{BE}	344,150.00

A - occupied by informal dweller/former owner
B - consolidated
C - unconsolidated
D - w/ Deed of Assignment in favor of the bank
E- untitled
F- with unpaid taxes

Each bid proposal shall be accompanied by a deposit equivalent to ten percent (10%) of the bid in the form of cash or Manager's Check only payable to PDIC for the account of the named closed bank. Bid forms and copies of the Conditions of Bid may be secured from the abovecited PDIC address. For further information, interested bidders may call telephone number 841-4000 local 4729, 28 or 31.

The winning bidder shall undertake the responsibility to acquire and maintain peaceful possession and enjoyment of the property without seeking the assistance of PDIC.

PDIC reserves the right to sell any of the properties at anytime on or before July 28 if such sale is in the best interest of the closed banks. In case of occurrence of flood, storm or other natural calamities that may result in the cancellation of holding the public bidding on the published date, such public bidding shall be held on the next working day.

R/L ROPOA DISPOSAL COMMITTEE

(PDI–July 14 & 21, 2005)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

BSP•BSN•PT•MT
Any Allied Health Grads up to P45T/ Mo! 8926828

CAREGIVER 5280730

DEP ED MAKATI
F. BENITEZ ELEM. SCHOOL
VACANT POSITION
OSEC-DECSB-MTCHRI-31076
OSEC-DECSB-MTCHRI-31264

NURSE, AGRICULTURAL ENG., INTERNATIONAL COOK, FOREMAN LANDSCAPER 4981172,4981661, 0920-6262141

OFC STF 09159481404 GENESIS

OFFICE STAFF 09192247082 Faye

POEA
24-HR HOTLINES
722-1144
722-1155

AUCTION

www.henrybutcher.com

SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

At.: Henry Butcher Auction Center - Hilon Cmpd., Bo. Mayapa, Canlubang, Laguna
ON: TUESDAY 19th JULY 2005 - 10:30AM SHARP

MOTOR VEHICLES; SPORTS FIELD MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT; DETERGENT MANUFACTURING SPARES; ELECTRICALS; POWER TOOLS/HAND TOOLS; OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT; MISC.

MOTOR VEHICLES - TOYOTA CAMRY GXE (2000) Automatic Transmission 4-Door SEDAN (White); TOYOTA HI-ACE GL (2000) Manual Transmission Van
SPORTS FIELD MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT- TORO Realmaster 223-D/5100-D Lawn Mower; STEINER Gas Engine Lawn Mower, JACOBSEN 526/522 Walk-Behind Lawn Mowers, CUSHMAN Groom Master Gas Engine Lawn Mower, SDI Trailer Mounted Sprayer
DETERGENT MANUFACTURING EQUIPMENT SPARES - Assorted Unused Ball Bearings, Pulleys, V-Belts, Flow Regulators, Air Supply Valves; Insertion Probes, Assorted Induction Motors; Capacitors; Asstd Hepa Filters; Pneumatic Cylinders; Solenoid Valves, etc.
ELECTRICALS - 50 KVA Transformers; Main Panel Boards; Yard Lamps, Outdoor Extension Cords, TRANE Starter Modules, Incandescent Bulbs, etc.
POWER TOOLS/ HAND TOOLS - NAKINA Cut-Off Machines, SMT Concrete Breakers; Engineers Transits, JOBMATE Tool Sets, JOBMATE Laser Levels; NAKINA Carving Machine; 2-Ton Cable Pullers, Hydraulic Floor Jacks, Bottle Jacks; Tin Snips; Plier Sets; SUNNA Multi Testers, Socket Wrench Sets, Drill & Grinder Sets, Hydraulic Stackers, etc.
OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT - Swivel Chairs; Wooden Guest Chairs; Steel Filing Cabinets, Steel Lockers, Safety Vaults, Wooden Office Tables, Steel Base Collapsible Tables, Steel Cabinets, Wooden Cabinets, Photocopying Machines, etc.
MISCELLANEOUS - AMERICAN STANDARD Clear Tap Faucet w/ Filters, Lavatory Faucets, GROSSMANS Full Louver Bifold Doors (Unused), Assorted Toilet Fittings, Television Sets, VCD Players, Submersible Pumps, Gear Motors; Blowers, Compressors, Tugger Hoists, SAGAWA SG60 60 KVA Generator, etc.

On View: Monday 18th July 2005 - 9am to 5pm & morning of sale day
Refundable Deposit: Php5,000 (upon registration)
For further information please contact Carol Cosca at Tel: 049 834 6541
Email: carol.cosca@henrybutcher.com

Goindustry Henry Butcher

DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines will receive sealed bids on July 27, 2005, 2:00 p.m. 12th Floor, Suite 5, of the DBP Head Office, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City for the following properties on CASH BASIS:

CODE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM SELLING PRICE
REAL ESTATE			
METRO MANILA			
AM-JA-092	Aguirre Ave. cor. Ortigas St., BF Homes, Parañaque City	956 m^2, adjoining 2 parcels of residential commercial lots (TCT Nos. 164325 & 164326) with school bldg. & imp.	P 13,500,000.00
AM-MC-93	12th Floor, Avalon Condominium, No. 95 Xavier St. cor. Ortigas Ave. San Juan	170 m^2, condominium unit (CCT No. 10964-R) with 3-bedroom & 3-T&B	P 5,100,000.00
BACOLOD			
AM-CP-094	National Road, Brgy. Sum-ag, Bacolod City	6,995 m^2, adjoining 2 parcels of commercial/residential lots (TCT Nos. T-182764 & T-182766) with ricemill bldg.	P 6,245,400.00
BATAAN			
AM-ED-095	Lot Nos. 13, 16 & 17, Blk. 32, Sta. Monica Homes, Sitio Wiswis, Mariveles	150 m^2, adjoining 3 parcels of residential lots (TCT Nos. 229487 – 229489) with bldg. & imp.	P 384,800.00
AM-ED-096	Lot Nos. 35, 38 & 39, Blk. 31, Sta. Monica Homes, Sitio Wiswis, Mariveles	150 m^2, adjoining 3 parcels of residential lots (TCT Nos. 229505 – 229507) with bldg. & imp.	P 353,000.00
BATANGAS			
AM-ED-097	Diversion Road, Brgy. Alangilan	18,139 m^2 industrial lot (TCT No. 53085) with bldgs. & imp.	P 39,847,000.00
CAVITE			
DAT-01	Corner Galicia and Valencia Sts., La Residencia de Bacoor, Aniban 1 Bacoor	256 m^2 vacant residential lot (TCT No. T-108835)	P 1,740,800.00
DAT-02	Ground Floor, Bacoor Business Center, Brgy. Salinas and Habay Bacoor	Condominium unit No. 107 (CCT No. CT-1829)	P 1,183,100.00
AM-CP-098a	Metrogate Subd., Brgy. Lancaan, Dasmariñas	120 m^2 vacant residential lot (TCT No. T-98735)	P 420,000.00
AM-CP-098b	Metrogate Subd., Brgy. Lancaan, Dasmariñas	120 m^2 vacant residential lot (TCT No. T-98736)	P 420,000.00
DAVAO			
JTG-006	40 Purok Galignan, Mankilam Road, Tagum City	2,791 m^2 residential lot (TCT No. T-190125) with bldg. & imp.	P 5,291,200.00
JTG-001	Margarita Rd., Margarita Vill., Bajada Davao City	2,000 m^2 vacant residential lot (TCT No. 347769)	P 4,600,000.00
JTG-004	Camelia St., San Pedro Vill., Buhangin, Davao City	1,146 m^2 vacant residential lot (TCT No. 347765)	P 3,781,800.00
JTG-007	Cor. Mankilam Road & main entrance road of Villa Patricia, Tagum City	1,791 m^2 vacant residential lot (TCT No. T-190126)	P 2,686,500.00
JTG-005	China Sea St., Ecoland Subd., Phase 3, Matina, Davao City	525 m^2 vacant residential lot (TCT No. 347768)	P 2,362,500.00
AM-JA-099	Purok 1, Padillo Compound, Rizal Ave. Interior, Poblacion Zone II, Digos City	1,122 m^2 residential lot (TCT No. T-53895) with bldg. & imp.	P 1,508,600.00
PANGASINAN			
AM-CP-100	Pagal District, San Carlos City	11,200 m^2 adjoining 4 industrial lots (TCT Nos. T-32082 – 32085) with bldg. & imp.	P 12,000,000.00
RIZAL	Bermuda Heights Subd., Bos. San Ibayo and San Isidro, Antipolo City	Subdivision lots:	
AM-PY-101	Lot – 12 Blk – 1	300 m^2 TCT No. 403154	P 378,000.00
AM-PY-102	5 4	337 m^2 TCT No. 403153	P 377,440.00
AM-PY-103	1 3	336 m^2 TCT No. 403152	P 376,620.00
AM-PY-104	12 5	322 m^2 TCT No. 403156	P 360,640.00
AM-PY-105	2 5	277 m^2 TCT No. 403155	P 329,630.00
AM-PY-106	1 7	287 m^2 TCT No. 403157	P 321,440.00
CHATTELS			
AM-ED-107	Diversion Road, Brgy. Alangilan, Batangas City	Various machinery and equipment for marble making	P 17,574,200.00
AM-JA-108	Mactan Economic Processing Zone, Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu	Oxygen-Nitrogen-Argon Plant machinery & equipment and spare parts supplies & inventories	P 10,000,000.00
AM-ED-109	Trigen Ice Plant, Numancia, Aklan	One (1) unit Mobile Crane, 35 ton capacity 60 ft. lattice boom ISAHI	P 610,000.00
AM-CP-110a	DBP Depot, Doña Severina Subd., Parañaque City	One (1) unit Electric Heating Upsetter, TICHO, Model KT-VH260	P 244,400.00
AM-CP-110b	DBP Depot, Doña Severina Subd., Parañaque City	One (1) unit welding machine, Miller, Model CP-200	P 15,000.00
AM-CP-111	Brgy. Wakas, Tayabas, Quezon	One (1) unit Caterpillar Bulldozer with dismantled parts	P 75,000.00

BIDDERS ARE REMINDED:

1. To inspect the properties to determine their actual condition before the bidding;
2. To submit in DBP's official bid form available at the AMD-Acquired Assets, 2nd Floor, DBP Head Office during office hours; and
3. To be on time. No bids will be accepted once unsealing of the bids commences. The sale shall be subject to other terms and conditions which may be imposed by the Bank.

DBP RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN OR TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK. THE DECISION OF THE BANK IS FINAL AND BINDING.

For inquiries, please call telephone numbers: 892-1566/893-7172 or 818-9511 local 2218/2252 for Code starting with AM; (054) 721-2307 for DAT; and 892-3836 and 818-9511 local 2227 & 2229 for DAT and JTG.

ASSET MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

(PDI – June 14 & 15, 2005)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

CREBA expo 2005
OUR WORLD UNDER ONE ROOF.

CREBA EXPO 2005

The **Chamber of Real Estate and Builders Association (CREBA)** will hold the country's first-ever Developer's Summit – **CREBA Expo 2005** – carrying the theme ***"Our World Under One Roof"***.

Over 500 developers, government agencies, local government units, schools, media outfits, banks, private and public financing institutions and suppliers and contractors will gather at the World Trade Center on July 27 to 30 to participate in the said event.

In support of the program, the **Philippine Daily Inquirer** will publish a special tabloid sized supplement dubbed as **CREBA EXPO 2005** on ***July 24, 2005.*** This magazine, dedicated to the biggest exhibit in the country's real estate and construction industry, promises to provide maximum media mileage to you, our advertisers.

Placing an ad in this supplement ensures:

1. **Full color advertising with NO color surcharge *(the 80% surcharge will be waived)***
2. **Reasonable price**

AD SIZE	WIDTH x HEIGHT	AMOUNT
Full Page	24.6 cms x 30 cms	56,595.00
Half Page	24.6 cms x 15 cms	28,297.50
1/4Page	12.3 cms x 15 cms	14,148.75
1/8 Page	12.3 cms x 7.5 cms	7,074.38

ACCEPTABLE AD MATERIAL : **TIF Format**
300 Pixels Per Inch (resolution)
CMYK Mode

MATERIAL DEADLINE : **July 19, 2005**

3. **Circulation within Metro Manila**
4. **Free copies of the CREBA Magazine to be distributed on July 27-30, 2005 during CREBA Expo 2005 event proper**
5. **Insert on Inquirer's July 24, 2005 issue.**

For your concerns please call **Ms. Adela G. Mendoza at 421-0343 or 421-1420** or **email agarcia@inquirer.com.ph**

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Bids and Awards Committee - Head Office, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) invites BSP/G-EPS registered companies/contractors and other interested suppliers to a public bidding for one (1) lot supply, installation and commissioning of one (1) unit Automatic Sorting (measuring and inspection) Machine per BSP specifications.

Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC): P12,000,000.00

Required Delivery Period: Eight (8) weeks after opening of Letter of Credit (LC)

Bid documents are available from 11 July 2005 to 21 July 2005 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P6,000.00 at the following:

BAC Secretariat
Rm 212, 2nd Floor, Five-Storey Building
Cor. A. Mabini & P. Ocampo Sr. Sts., Malate, Manila
Tel. No. 525-2493

Pre-Bid Conference: 22 July 2005 2:00 P.M.
Bidding Date and Time: 03 August 2005 10:00 A.M.
Place: Room MR2A, 2nd Floor, 5-storey Building, BSP Main Complex, Malate, Manila

Interested bidders shall submit not later than the bidding date and time the following documents in three (3) separate envelopes:

Envelope No. 1:

1. (a) Articles of Incorporation/Partnership and/or Business Registration Papers (For Single Proprietorship)
   (b) Company Profile
2. Y2004 Audited Financial Statements (Income Statement & Balance Sheet)
3. (a) Y2004 Income Tax Return (ITR) duly stamped/received by the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) or its authorized agent banks
   (b) Tax Clearance Certificate
4. Valid and current Mayor's permit/municipal license
5. Prospective bidder's computation for its Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC) which shall be at least equal to the ABC, duly signed by the authorized signing official and supported with pertinent documents, i.e., financial statements and copies of on-going project contracts; or a commitment from a licensed bank to extend a credit line if awarded the contract to be bid, or a certification from the bank stating that the bidder has a cash deposit with a holding period of at least one (1) month from date of the bidding. The commitment or cash deposit certificate shall be in an amount not lower than 10% of the ABC. The NFCC shall be computed as follows: NFCC = [(Current assets - Current liabilities) (K)] minus value of all outstanding projects: K = 10
6. Sworn statement that the prospective bidder is not blacklisted from bidding in any Government Office, Agency, Corporation
7. Letter authorizing the BAC or its duly authorized representative to verify any or all of the documents submitted for eligibility check
8. Sworn certification by the prospective bidder or his authorized representative that each of the documents submitted is an original copy or a true and faithful reproduction or copy of the original.
9. Affidavit of the prospective bidder that he or she or any officer of their corporation is not related to the Head of the Procuring Entity by consanguinity or affinity up to the third civil degree
10. The prospective bidder shall submit list of current users of the Automatic Sorting (Measuring and Inspection) machine including telephone/fax numbers, e-mail address and contact persons
11. Affidavit of the prospective bidder that it shall provide technical support (after sales service) of the unit including the computer and visual systems of the unit
12. Certificate of quality assurance from product manufacturer (e.g. ISO, UL, etc.)
13. Brochure(s) of offer showing compliance with the BSP specifications

Envelope No. 2:

1. Instructions to Bidders
2. Duly Accomplished Certification/Undertaking
3. Original Bid Security

Envelope No. 3:

Price Proposal

All envelopes shall be dropped in the bid box located at Room MR2A, 2nd Floor, 5-storey Building, BSP Main Complex, Malate, Manila. LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

The BSP assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

The BSP reserves the right to reject any and all bid proposals, or declare the bidding a failure, or not award the contract; and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) **JUAN DE ZUÑIGA, JR.**
Chairman

(PDI--July14, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN
Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City

BULLETIN OF VACANT POSITIONS

In Compliance with RA 7041

GRAFT INVESTIGATION & PROSECUTION OFFICER I - SG 26

A. **BUREAU OF RESIDENT OMBUDSMAN** – Item Nos. OMBA-GIO1-108-1998; OMBA-GIO1-120-1998, OMBA-GIO1-132-1998. (3 Positions)

B. **PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION & ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION BUREAU (PIAB) E** – Item No. OMBA-GIO1-1-1998; (1 Position)

Education: Bachelor of Laws; Experience: 3 years of relevant experience: Training: 24 hours of relevant training, Eligibility: RA 1080 (BAR)

Applicants should submit, within ten (10) working days from the date of this publication to the Human Resource Management Division at the above address, the following requirements:

1) A letter stating the position applied for;
2) Duly accomplished Personal Data Sheet (CSC Form 212);
3) 1" x 1" picture (colored);
4) * Bar/Board Rating or CSC Certificate of Eligibility;
5) * Transcript of Records;
6) * Certificates of Seminars/Training attended;
7) * Service Records or Certificates from previous / present employers stating the positions assumed and corresponding actual duties and responsibilities (if applicable)
8) * Performance Appraisal Reports for the last two rating periods (for current government employees only);
9) Statement duly signed by the applicant as to any relative(s) within the fourth degree of consanguinity or affinity, currently employed with the Office of the Ombudsman.

* Where photocopies are filed, the document must be certified as true copies by the proper authorities or the applicant may present the originals to the Human Resource Management Officer for comparison with the photocopies.

PNCC SKYWAY CORPORATION

Dona Soledad Avenue, Better Living, Paranaque City, Philippines 1700
Telephone No. 824-2282 (Connecting All Departments)

July 14, 2005

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The PNCC Skyway Corporation (PSC) invites prospective bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for:

NAME OF PROJECT : PSC Corporate Healthcare Project
APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT : Php 10,300,000.00
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT : One (1) year health maintenance service for PNCC Skyway employees and qualified dependents
DELIVERY PERIOD : As per Notice to Proceed

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES:

I. PRE BID CONFERENCE
The pre-bid conference shall be held on July 26, 2005, Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. at the PSC Conference Room, 2nd Floor Toll Operations Building, Dona Soledad Avenue, Better Living, Paranaque City

II. SUBMISSION OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND BIDS
The legal requirements for eligibility of prospective bidders and their bids must be personally submitted by the duly authorized representative to the Materials Management Department located at the 2nd Floor, Toll Operations Building, Dona Soledad Avenue, Better Living Paranaque City on or before 2:00 p.m. August 08, 2005, Monday.

III. OPENING OF ELIGIBILITY ENVELOPES AND BIDS
Eligibility envelopes and bids will be opened at 2:00 p.m. August 8, 2005, Monday, in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives at the Conference Room, 2nd Floor Toll Operations Building, Dona Soledad Avenue, Better Living, Paranaque City

Starting July 19, 2005 prospective bidders may secure checklist of eligibility requirements and bid documents from the Materials Management Department located at the 2nd Floor, Toll Operations Building, Dona Soledad Avenue, Better Living, Paranaque City c/o Mr. Louie Melo (Tel.No. 824-19-38, 824-22-62 loc. 377/Fax No. 824-26-93/ E-mail Add: psc_mmd@skyway.com.ph) after payment of a non-refundable fee of One Thousand Pesos (Php1,000.00).

Interested bidders must not be related to the head of the PNCC Skyway Corporation or any member of the Pre-Qualifications, Bids and Awards Commitee (PBAC) or its Secretariat either by consanguinity or affinity up to the third civil degree.

The PBAC reserves the right to 1.) reject any or all bids, 2.)waive any defects or informalities therein, 3.)or accept any bid/s or offer/s which it may considered to be most responsive and beneficial to PNCC Skyway Corporation.

ROMERICO O. REGANIT
Chairman
Pre-Qualifications, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--July 14, 2005)

USACNC Group

The best choice of strategy partner for World-wide customer

We offer attractive remuneration package and career development plan and more work opportunities for talent.

- **Administrative Assistant**
  College or University graduate
  Fluent in English
  Proficiency in Mandarin or Fukenese is desired
  Good communication skill
- **Network Control Engineer**
  College or University graduate
  PC device trouble shooting ability
  Network equipments maintenance knowledge required
  Familiar with TCP/IP
  MCSE, CCNA, RHCE License will be a plus
- **Database System Analyst**
  College or University graduate
  Hands-on good skill in SA Database access, MSSQL, MYSQL
  Candidates must be experienced with designs of computer process
  Strong analytical skill
- **On-line Sales & Marketing Representative**
  College or University graduate
  Good command of English
  Basic computer operation skill required
  Experience in consumer goods in multinational company will be a plus
  Strong Sales skill
  Organized and independent worker who has a great team spirit

Interested and qualified applicants, please send up-to-date resumé in English with latest photo to e-mail: Steed@twnese.com and Copy to E-Mail: esteken@yahoo.com.tw

Address: Unit 23-B of Chatham House Condominium, Herrera corner Valero, Salcedo Village, Makati City.

WANTED

AIRCON TECH / INSTALLER

- *Air conditioning Vocational Graduate*
- *Expert in Split and Packaged Type A/C*
- *Hardworking, Honest & Reliable*

DRIVER / COLLECTOR

- *Single, college level*
- *Can drive cars & motorcycle*
- *Can trouble shoot*
- *Honest & hardworking*

Please send your resumé & picture to:

GRAND AIR CONDITIONING
1650 A. Francisco St.,
San Andres Bukid, Manila.
Tel. No. 561-2078 / 562-2703

MARKETING COORDINATOR
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

- ✓ 25 TO 34 YEARS OLD
- ✓ RESOURCEFUL
- ✓ CREATIVE
- ✓ HARDWORKING

Pls. call 892-9058 / 892-4427 for appt. or submit resume to 1202 Medical Plaza, Cor. Amorsolo & dela Rosa Sts., Legaspi Vill., Makati City

---

DENTIST
DENTAL ASSISTANT

- FEMALE (Preferably Single)
- 22 TO 30 YEARS OLD
- TEAM PLAYER
- AGGRESSIVE
- HARDWORKING

Pls. call 892-9058 / 892-4427 for appt. or submit resume to 1202 Medical Plaza, Cor. Amorsolo & dela Rosa Sts., Legaspi Village, Makati City

---

WANTED IMMEDIATELY
ACCOUNTING CLERKS

- Accounting graduate
- Female not more than 30 years old
- with at least 1 year experience in Gen. Acctg.
- Computer literate

SOLIMAN SECURITY SERVICES, INC
Room [illegible] Ermita Center Building [illegible]

Manila Memorial Park
Leading the Way
SUCAT
HOLY CROSS
DASMARIÑAS
CEBU
DAVAO
BULACAN
(632) 815 1875 or 90
(632) 893 8374 to 77

OBITUARIES

THE HERITAGE PARK
FORT BONIFACIO
Funeral Home and Crematory
845-2334 to 38; 845-2440

> "For God so loved the world, that He gave us His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
> — John 3:16

MESSAGE OF THANKS

We, the family of the late

ELPIDIO "BOY" Q. ARZADON

wish to express our deepest gratitude to all of you who offered prayers, kept vigil with us and in many immeasurable ways condoled with us in these most difficult times.

In Loving Memory
of the
1st Death Anniversary
of the late

ESTELA PRIMICIAS SINDICO

Former Under Secretary – Department of Social Welfare
who passed away on July 15, 2004

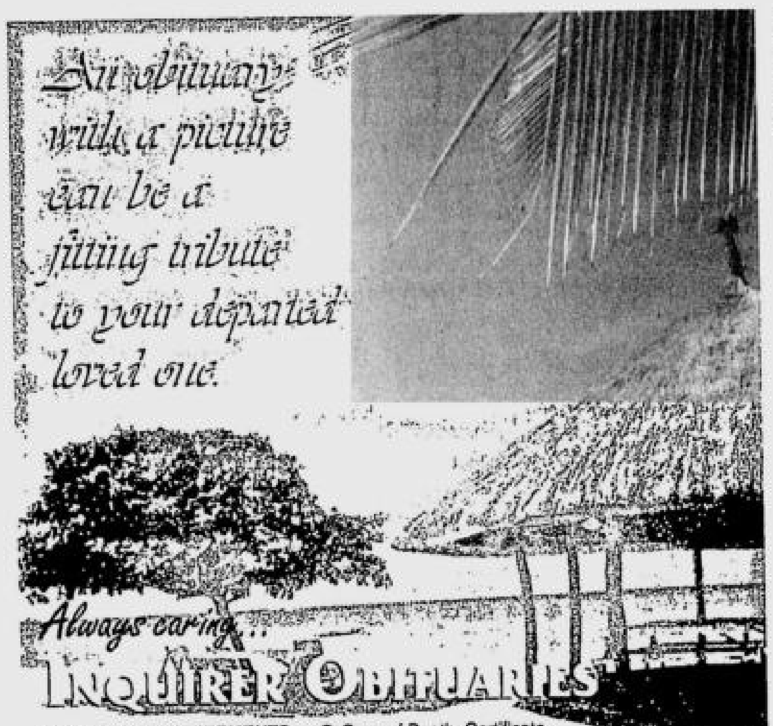
Her husband **EDGARDO S. SINDICO**; Children and In-laws **Philip** and **Bing-bing**, **Marla** and **Misael Lim**, **Edgardo Jr.**, **Fabi** (†), **Marivic** and **Matthew Pineda**, **Dennis** and **Maribel**, **Jesse** and **Minda**, **Sony** and **Arthur Munsayac**, **Marilou** and **Joey Garganera**, grandchildren and relatives request their friends and the pious reader to join them in their prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Holy Masses will be offered on July 15, 2005
at the following Churches:

Quezon City
Sto. Domingo Church – 5:00 AM
Our Lady of Lourdes Church – 5:30 AM
Sta. Rita de Cascia Parish – 6:30 AM
Parish of the Heart of Jesus and Mary – 6:30 AM
and 10:00 AM at the Church Ossuary

Iloilo City
St. Anne's Molo Parish Church – 5:30 AM
Immaculate Conception Tanza Parish Church – 6:00 AM

Pangasinan
St. Dominic Church, San Carlos City – 6:00 AM



An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...
INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments.

Alfredo C. Sabido Sr.

Peacefully joined his Creator on July 11, 2005.

His remains lie in state at Gingoog City. Interment will be on July 16, 2005 at Gingoog Cemetery at 6 a.m.

The faithful are requested to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

RODOLFO R. ROBAS

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord on July 12, 2005 at the age of 79.

His loving wife Magdalena; brothers and sisters-in-law Romulo and Vicky, Job and Alice; nephews, nieces, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Ermin Garcia Street, Cubao, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Saturday, July 16, 2005 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City, after the 1:00 p.m. Mass at the Nativity of Our Lord Parish.

CLASSIFIEDS

Department of Health
Center for Health Development II
SOUTHERN ISABELA GENERAL HOSPITAL
Santiago City (Isabela), Philippines

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY & TO BID

Tel. No. (078) 682-8123 • Fax 682-7687

The ***SOUTHERN ISABELA GENERAL HOSPITAL**, Rosario, Santiago City*, through its **HOSPITAL BIDS & AWARDS COMMITTEE (HOBAC)** hereby invites interested suppliers/manufacturers/distributors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project	*Procurement of Drugs & Medicines, Medical Supplies, Laboratory Supplies, X-ray & Dental Supplies*		
Location	*Southern Isabela General Hospital, Zamora Street Corner Recto Avenue, Rosario, Santiago City*		
Approved Budget: For the Contract	*Drugs & Medicines*	HP	*4,600,000.00*
	Medical Supplies		*13,526,908.00*
	Laboratory Supplies		*7,779,837.00*
	X-ray Supplies		*482,000.00*
	Dental Supplies		*254,863.00*
Contract Duration	*One hundred twenty (120) days*		
Delivery Period	*Ten (10) days*		

Prospective Bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last two (2) years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding, and have key personnel and equipment requirement is indicated in the Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement & Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-qualification & Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of RA#9184 & its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

ACTIVITY	DATE/VENUE
➤ *Issuance of Application for Eligibility to Bid*	*July 26, 2005 – Tuesday* ***Accounting Office*** *ELEANOR B. VIRAY* *HOBAC Head Secretariat* *8:00 am-5:00 pm*
➤ *Deadline for Submission of Application for Eligibility Requirements* *1. Drugs and Medicines* *2. Medical, Laboratory, X-ray & Dental Supplies*	*August 2, 2005 – Tuesday* *August 3, 2005 – Wednesday* ***Accounting Office*** *c/o ELEANOR B. VIRAY* *HOBAC Head Secretariat* *8:00 to 5:00 pm*
➤ *Issuance of Bid Documents* ➤ *Pre-Bid Conference*	*August 10, 2005 Wednesday* *c/o ELEANOR B. VIRAY* *HOBAC Head Secretariat* ***SIGH Conference Room*** *9:00 am – 12:00 nn*
➤ *Submission and Opening of Sealed Bids* *1. Drugs and Medicines* *2. Medical, Laboratory, X-ray & Dental Supplies*	*August 19 – 2005 Friday* ***SIGH Conference Room*** *9:00 am – 12:00 nn* *August 22, 2005 Monday* ***SIGH Conference Room*** *9:00 am – 12:00 nn*
➤ *Bid Evaluation*	*September 6, 2005*
➤ *Post Qualification*	*September 27, 2005*
➤ *Notice of Award*	*October 10, 2005*

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of One Thousand Five Hundred pesos only PHP1,500.00 to the Cashier.

Approved by:
(Sgd.) **GERMAN A. MABBAYAD, MD**
HOBAC Chairman

(PDI–July 14 & 21, 2005)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

PD REF. NO. PB050420-PP0032 (PB2) / PR NO. TTSD-05-000009528

The **NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION, BIDS AND AWARD COMMITTEE FOR HEAD OFFICE**, wishes to invite interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid on the item listed below:

Quantity	Item Description	PR No.	Approved Budget
	SUPPLY AND DELIVEYR OF THE FOLLOWING ATI MICROWAVE RADIO PROPRIETARY SPARE PARTS	TTSD-05-000000 9528	
3 PCS.	ITEM 1: RADIO FREQUENCY UNIT (RFU) POWER SUPPLY, Part No. 100-01852		P 846,877.50
3 PCS.	ITEM 2: RFU RECEIVER SYNTHESIZER, Part No. 100-03802		P 1,469,745.00
1 PC.	ITEM 3: DIGITAL INTERFACE UNIT (DIU) Power Supply, Part No. 100-04816		P 104,880.00
	TOTAL		P 2,421,502.00

1. Bid Documents will be available for issuance starting **July 12, 2005 to August 07, 2005** from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the BAC Secretariat Office, National Transmission Corporation, Materials Management Division (MMD), Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City upon payment of non-refundable fee of **Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00)** per set.
2. Deadline for submission, receipt and opening of bids shall be on or before **10:00 A.M. of August 08, 2005** at the Admin Conference Room, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City. If the date is declared non-working day, the new deadline for submission shall be announced through a Bid Bulletin. Submission of documents must be clear, legible and readable. Late submission and/or incomplete bid documents shall not be accepted.
3. Pre-bid conference will be held on **July 27, 2005 at 2:00 P.M.** at the Admin Conference Room, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City.
4. All particulars relative to the eligibility, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by the Implementing Rules and Regulations-A of Republic Act 9184.
5. TransCo reserves the right to reject any Application for Eligibility or all bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein, and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the corporation.
6. Additional Information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) **ARMANDO N. OCHOA**
Chairman, Bids and Award Committee

(PDI – July 14, 2005)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

PD Ref No. PB050428-EL0043

The **NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION, BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE FOR HEAD OFFICE**, wishes to invite interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid on the items listed below:

1 LOT – DESIGN, SUPPLY, DELIVERY TO SITES, INSTALLATION, INTEGRATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF MICROWAVE SYSTEM FOR MINDANAO

TOTAL APPROVED BUDGET FOR CONTRACT TO BE BID : P 19,500,000.00

1. Bid Documents will be available for issuance starting **July 7, 2005 to August 18, 2005** at the BAC Secretariat Office, National Transmission Corporation, Materials Management Division, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City, upon payment of non-refundable fee of **Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00)** per set.
2. Deadline for submission, receipt and opening of bids shall be on or before **2:00 P.M. of August 19, 2005** at the Admin Conference Room, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Ave. corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City. If the date is declare non-working day, the new deadline for submission shall be announced through a Bid Bulletin. Submission of documents must be clear, legible and readable. Late submission and/or incomplete application shall not be accepted.
3. Site Survey shall be on **July 25-29, 2005.**
4. Pre-bid conference will be held on **August 5, 2005 at 2:00 P.M.** at the Admin Conference Room, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg., Power Center, Quezon Ave. corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City.
5. All particulars relative to the eligibility, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by the Implementing Rules and Regulations-A of Republic Act 9184.
6. TransCo reserves the right to reject any Application for Eligibility or all bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein, and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.
7. Additional information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) **ARMANDO N. OCHOA**
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – July 8 & 14, 2005)

MMDA chair NREA mid-year speaker

METRO Manila Development Authority (MMDA) chair Bayani F. Fernando will be guest of honor and main speaker during the Mid-Year Membership Meeting and Testimonial Dinner of the National Real Estate Association, Inc. (NREA) – the one-stop trade organization.

Personalities in public service and the real estate industry will share the limelight in this mid-year meeting & parangal on July 29, 2005 (Friday) with a thanksgiving mass starting 6 p. m. at Club Filipino, Greenhills in San Juan, Metro Manila.

The "Parangal", which is an annual mid-year affair, recognizes and fetes outstanding and exemplary achievements by government officials, as well as private individuals, toward the improvement of the quality of life of the Filipino people.

Among the honorees in this year's edition of the "Parangal" are Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Chair Dr. Carlito S. Puno, newly confirmed DENR Secretary Michael T. Defensor, world-renown architect-planner Felino A. Palafox, Jr., first Filipino graduate in Advanced Management Development Program for Real Estate Entrepreneurs & Senior Managers from Harvard University in 2003; chair-president Roberto M. Pagdanganan of Phil. International Trading Corp., also PHILSOC Chair of the 23rd SEA Games; Usec Lucille P. Ortile, new HUDCC Secretary General; architect-developer Nestor S. Mangio as PRC 2005 Most Outstanding Professional in Architecture; NREA VP-external Gilda C. Lim, new lady president of Rotary Club of Makati Dasmariñas and NREA Trustee-PRO Marissa del Mar as charter president, Rotary Club of Makati Neilsen.

Special guests in attendance who will also be esteemed are the surviving incorporators and founders of the association.

Invited presentors are HLURB CEO Butch Fabul, HDMF prexy Miro Quimbo and HGC chief Bong Bongolan, NHMFC president Celso delos Angeles, NHA GM Rico Laxa and architect Ric Poblete of Architectscope.

The affair also coincides with the birthday celebration of NREA president and Founder Jose "Ka Pepe" Manalad. A traditional toast to the celebrant and the honorees will be held led by EVP Alejandro S. Mañalac, chair of the affair.

Corporate World '05 opens today

SENATOR Ramon B. Magsaysay will lead the business community today (July 14) in opening the Corporate World 2005 at the World Trade Center Metro Manila. To assist Magsaysay at the opening rites are presidents Cecilio B. Lorenzo of Infocom Technologies and Lynn Z. Romero of Worldexco Inc., the organizer of Corporate World 2005, a grand exhibit of business gifts and premiums and corporate solutions. They will lead the exhibitors and guests in a tour of the exhibits showcasing a huge assembly of business and corporate requirements.

Corporate World 2005, which runs up to Saturday (July 16), also includes a presentation of the Product Excellence Awards and Loyalty Awards, and the "Corporate Elan", a fashion show featuring Ms. Digna Rosales' collection of trendy corporate wear and uniforms. Corporate World 2005 puts together the business community's two major trade shows — the 18th Corporate Giveaways, and the 2nd Corporate Solutions. Corporate Giveaways is the country's longest-running buyers' show on business gifts, premiums, promotional ideas, advertising specialties and merchandise incentives; while Corporate Solutions is a complementary showcase of the latest marketing support services, business solutions, office equipment, furniture, interiors, and supplies.

BUSINESS

CA bars implementation of EPCIB by-laws

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE COURT of Appeals has barred the 15-member board of Equitable PCI Bank from implementing any provision of the bank's amended by-laws.

The sixth division of the Court of Appeals issued the temporary restraining order yesterday in response to a petition filed by the group of mall magnate Henry Sy, which has a 2.5-percent stake in the country's third biggest local bank.

The order is effective for 60 days.

Henry Sy's Sysmart Corp. sought the restraining order on grounds that incumbent EPCIBank chair Antonio Go could use the provisions of the amended by-laws to take over the bank during the bank's annual stockholders' meeting scheduled on July 19.

The amended by-laws were nullified by the Securities and Exchange Commission in November last year.

EPCIB filed a petition with the CA to reverse the order.

"Unwarranted use of the disapproved amended by-laws by the Go family threatens to cause grave and irreparable damage to the majority stockholders, including Sysmart," Sysmart's petition said.

EPCIB, on the other hand, said the TRO would not affect the bank's operations.

"The adoption of the amended by-laws was a legitimate action of the board. We are confident that the final outcome of the case will bear this out," EPCIB said in a statement sent to the INQUIRER yesterday through e-mail.

Sysmart claimed in its petition with the CA that the amended by-laws would allow the Go family to use fewer votes to disqualify and/or approve the disqualification of nominees to the banks' 15-member board.

It claimed that the revised by-laws stated that the nomination committee, once confirmed by the board of directors, may reject the nomination or disqualify a nominee with finality.

Sysmart added that the nomination committee was effectively composed of members of the Go family and their allies.

Allowing the execution of the by-laws would thus be "illegal" and would allow the controlling - but minority directors—of EPCIBank to perpetuate themselves in power, Sysmart said.

Romulo, meanwhile, has objected to the nomination of Winston Garcia as representative of the GSIS to the EPCIB board because of his "dismal and questionable performance as president of the GSIS."

"His (Garcia's) personal qualifications make him unfit to represent the gallant men and women in government service who are the true owners of the GSIS funds," Romulo said yesterday in a statement.

"If this kind of corporate governance Garcia will bring to EPCIB, heaven help the shareholders and stakeholders of the bank," he added.

US allows duty-free imports of coco products

By Ronnel W. Domingo

EXPORTS of coconut-based raw materials for soaps and detergents are expected to grow after the United States granted Malacañang's request to remove duties under the US generalized system of preferences (GSP) scheme.

Thomas G. Aquino, officer in charge at the Department of Trade and Industry, said in a briefing that the US approved the Philippines' request for a waiver from the competitive need provisions of the US GSP for industrial monocarboxylic acid or coco fatty acids.

Aquino explained that the waiver of the competitive need limit effectively restored the duty-free treatment accorded to Philippine exports of coco fatty acids starting July 1 this year.

The country was unable to get GSP duty-free privilege for coco fatty acids in July 2003, thus the acids were levied a 2.3-percent Most Favored Nation tariff.

The US imposed ceilings on the GSP benefits through the CNL provisions to ensure that more competitive country suppliers would not have an undue advantage over the less competitive countries as well as the US domestic industry.

The DTI's Bureau of International Trade Relations submitted a petition on coco fatty acids last year for consideration in the 2004 US GSP review.

Results of the review are embodied in a presidential proclamation on GSP modifications that was signed on June 10 and released by the White House last July 1.

Further, Aquino said the development was consistent with the purpose of the GSP program, which is to promote economic development through trade, rather than through traditional aid programs.

"Continued enjoyment of the GSP provides an impetus for the country to export higher value products like coco fatty acids," Aquino said.

"This is a positive development in the area of our bilateral trade relations since the US represents an important market for our exports of coco fatty acids," he added.

Aquino said the US government's move significantly benefits Philippine exporters particularly the coconut industry and its allied activities.

Coco fatty acids are produced from coconut oil which comes from the processing of copra or coconut meal.

The country's exports of coconut fatty acids reached $28.22 million or about P1.55 billion in 2004, slightly down by 3.64 percent against the $29.29 million registered in 2003.

The US took in $17.74 million worth of coco fatty acids, followed by Malaysia with $2.33 million; Spain, $1.93 million; China, $1.9 million; and Netherlands, $1.7 million.

From January to April, exports of coco fatty acids reached $13.19 million or about P739 million, an increase of 30.76 percent from $10.09 million in the same period in 2003.

PSBank
U$Dollar
TIME DEPOSIT

Earn as high as 3.5%

	$1,000 to 9,999	$10,000 to 49,999	$50,000 & up
1 month	2.500%	2.750%	3.000%
2 months	2.625%	2.875%	3.125%
3 months	2.875%	3.125%	3.375%
6 months	3.125%	3.125%	3.375%
12 months	3.250%	3.500%	3.500%

*Quoted rates are subject to change without prior notice.
Rates are on per annum basis and subject to 7.5% withholding tax.

Open an account now at any PSBank branch nationwide or text us at PSBANK USTD <your name> <your landline no.> <your e-mail address> then send to 2327 for Globe or 0917-8902327 for non-Globe users.

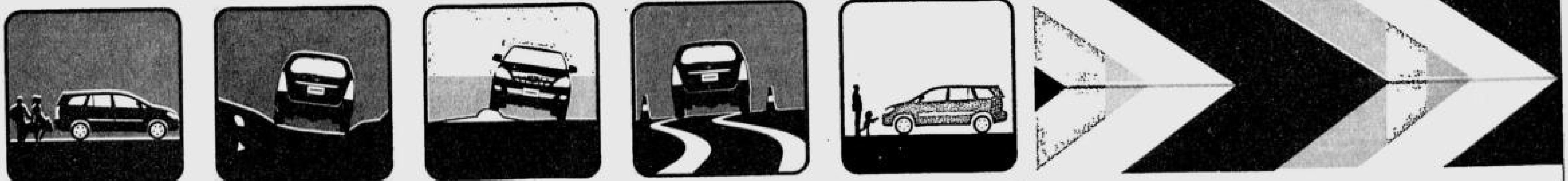
Member of the PDIC. Maximum Deposit Insurance for each Depositor P250,000.00

GLOBAL QUALITY PROJECT

Passion

INNOVA DRIVE TIME

Come take the *Innova* for a **TEST DRIVE** and check out our **TRADE-IN** event. Enjoy loads of **FUN** for the whole family.



Be at Filinvest, Alabang (Asean Road corner Promenade, near Festival Mall) from 9 am to 5 pm, July 16-17, Saturday to Sunday.

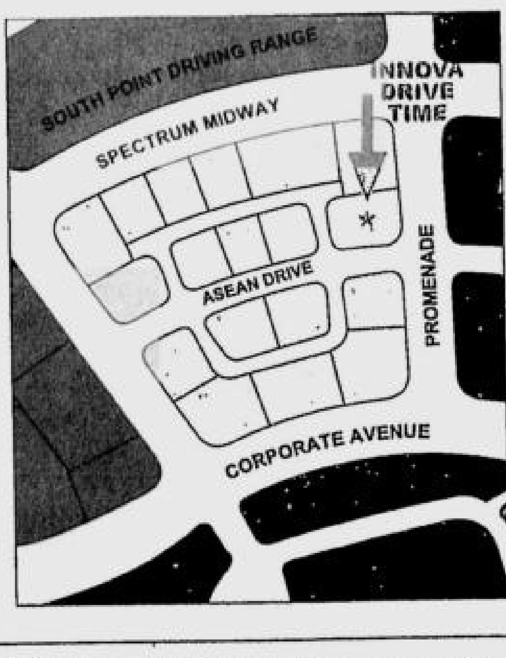
Discover the Innova's remarkable durability and stability. TOP platform for a comfortable ride, lower noise and vibration. New suspension systems offering enhanced stability and car-like comfort. Feel the exceptional power of the latest Common-Rail diesel engine or Variable Valve Timing-intelligent (VVT-i) gasoline engine with boosted output, performance and fuel efficiency. Be inspired by its impressive, sleek, stylish design.

Come and experience a beautiful revolution!

Plus!

- Vehicle Appraisal and Trade-in Facility
- Toyota Financial Services Booth for On-Site application
- Free Car Wash Services
- Loads of cool freebies
- And, the Toyota Formula One Replica Car

3 YEAR WARRANTY
www.toyota.com.ph



INNOVA
A Beautiful [R]evolution

TOYOTA

TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 858-8500
TOYOTA DEALER NETWORK: TOYOTA ALABANG, INC., 800-0801 to 32 / 802-1991 TOYOTA BACOLOD CITY, (034) 444-1811 to 13 TOYOTA BAGUIO CITY, (074) 447-0851 / (074) 300-3273 to 74 / (074) 300-4128 / 3825 / (074) 443-6778 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK, INC., 366-8901 to 06 / 364-1547 to 50 / 364-4071 to 75 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK-NORTH, 927-7215 / 17 / 30 / 39 / 927-7242 / 44 / 48 / 52 / 927-7257 / 62 / 65 / 927-7268 / 69 TOYOTA BATANGAS CITY, INC., (043) 723-7386 / (043) 723-7639 TOYOTA BICUTAN PARAÑAQUE 777-9500 TOYOTA CABANATUAN CITY, INC. (044) 463-8481 to 87 TOYOTA CAGAYAN DE ORO, INC., (08822) 735-770 / 791 / 846 / (088) 858-9994 / (088) 858-7770 / (08822) 737-480 TOYOTA CEBU CITY, INC., (032) 253-1161 TOYOTA CEBU-MANDAUE (032) 345-8670 TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH 952-1021 to 27 TOYOTA CUBAO, INC., 911-0651 to 63 TOYOTA DAGUPAN CITY, INC., (075) 517-2020 to 28 / (075) 522-6771 / 6734/ 4773 TOYOTA DASMARIÑAS CAVITE, (046) 850-2036 / (046) 850-2929 TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, INC., (082) 234-0998 / (082) 234-2994 / (082) 234-8640 TOYOTA ILOILO CITY, INC., (033) 320-6115 to 19 TOYOTA MAKATI INC., 897-3333 TOYOTA MANILA BAY CORP. 832-3408 to 10 / 832-3432 to 34 / 832-3384 / 832-3437 TOYOTA MARIKINA SERVICE STATION, 682-9701 to 03 TOYOTA OTIS, INC., 564-1811 to 20 TOYOTA PASONG TAMO, INC., 893-8084 TOYOTA QUEZON AVENUE, INC., 712-5001 to 06 TOYOTA SAN FERNANDO, (045) 961-1188 TOYOTA SHAW, INC., 532-4132 / 532-8428 / 534-3009 (telefax) TOYOTA SHAW-ORTIGAS, 671-9354 to 64 / 671-0400

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

sms feedback: inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart)
or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

MONDAY **ARTS & BOOKS** ◎ TUESDAY **FITNESS** ◎ WEDNESDAY **2BU** ◎ THURSDAY **FOOD** ◎ FRIDAY **FASHION & BEAUTY**

MYRNA Segismundo at the launching of her book "Philippine Cuisine" in Restaurant 9501 ROGER CARPIO

THE BEST Ube Ice Cream from Hyatt's Market Café

Every Filipino kitchen should have a copy of Myrna Segismundo's 'Philippine Cuisine,' which is filled with honest-to-goodness recipes that work

A no-nonsense cookbook

CHEF Myrna Segismundo's book, "Philippine Cuisine," is now available. It has a recipe for practically every Filipino dish that comes to mind. From pastel to *relleno, lumpia* to *pastillas, empanada* to *achara*. Even a chapter on condiments!

If there's anything extraordinary about this book, it is that Myrna has written it with her readers in mind. The procedures are simple yet, at the same time, they retain the very essence and techniques that are essential to whipping up fine Pinoy food.

KITCHEN RESCUE

Reggie Aspiras

"Philippine Cuisine" is a no-nonsense book filled with honest-to-goodness recipes that really work. It's certainly for every cook, whether amateur or professional, and for every Filipino kitchen, whether here or abroad, terribly reasonable at P350 (ABS-CBN Publishing, 9244104 or 4152272 loc. 4641-42).

Sax music, purple ice cream

Everybody loves a party and my family is no exception. My sister Babot is the most insatiable at throwing them. Just last week she had two, the highlights of which were Vince, the saxophone player, and ube ice cream.

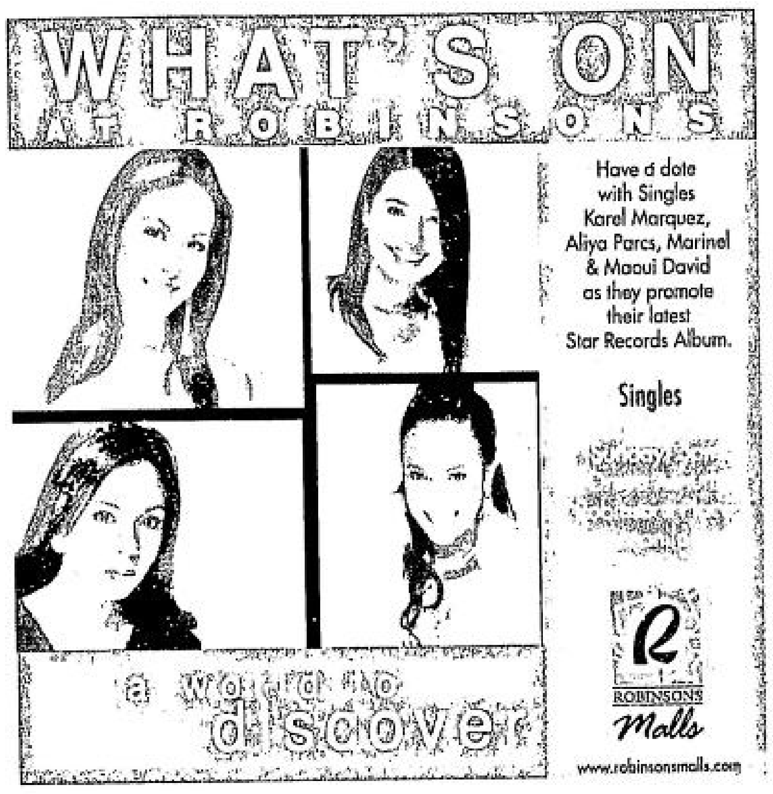
Imagine this: A cold room lit with candles, with each table set to perfection and adorned with exotic flowers with lamps emitting the scent of lavender. And with all that, food and wine in abundance. And just when your senses, heightened by this synchronized experience, are about to explode, in walks Bill Clinton with his saxophone, playing sweet music to you! What an evening! All right, maybe it wasn't Bill Clinton, but for an instant, when I closed my eyes, I could have sworn that it was! The next time you host a party, call Vince (0917-3402844).

Ube ice cream—don't we just love it?! Last Thursday, we were at the Market Café at the new Hyatt Casino Hotel. After my more-than-fair share of roasted duck (which was, by the way, excellent) and lotus rice, I moved on to dessert. The discovery for the evening was the ube ice cream. No other ube ice cream tastes "ube-er" than the one we had. Everything about it was perfect! It was creamy and so rich it added three inches to your hips! No other ube concoction I've tried in my life has done as much justice to the tuber as that scoop of ice cream has! You could taste everything, even the soil. And I meant that as a compliment!

Digging steaks

And speaking of the Hyatt, I heard Li-Li, the Chinese restaurant, is very good but what seems real exciting is the opening of their steak house, The Fireplace. I took a peek while I was there and it was cozy. Copper ceiling, leather furniture, no clutter—the hunting lodge kind of thing. It also has an extensive wine library with 800 wines to choose from!

A NO-NONSENSE/ C4



WHAT'S ON AT ROBINSONS

Have a date with Singles Karel Marquez, Aliya Parcs, Marinel & Maoui David as they promote their latest Star Records Album.

Singles

a world to discover

ROBINSONS Malls

www.robinsonsmalls.com

ALL THE BEST.

Lechon, a favorite Filipino dish, comes alive with every sip of Carlo Rossi.

Carlo Rossi
CALIFORNIA RED

SLIMMERS WORLD

Lose 20% of your body fat. Reduce your weight by 10, 20, 30 or more pounds!

ONLY P40 per day on Full Fitness Programmes.

FREE BODY FAT ANALYSIS ON ALL BIO DYNAMICS PROGRAMMES.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP.
0% INTEREST!
NO MONTHLY DUES!
NO JOINING FEES!

FITNESS HOTLINE 8873533
CELLPHONE 091-SLIMMERS
(75466377)

SLIMMERS WORLD FACE, SKIN & COSMETIC CENTERS

JULY PROMO!
BUY 10 TREATMENTS GET 5 FREE!
Per DTI-NCR Permit #2787, Series of 2005.

The latest technology in slimming and firming from Europe...
MESOTHERAPY

DIAMOND ULTRAPEEL
For smooth & beautiful white skin.

■BODY SCRUB ■SKIN WHITENING ■AQUAMID ■BOTOX ■RESTYLANE
■PERLANE ■FACIAL ■LASER ACNE TREATMENT ■WART REMOVAL
■NUTRACELL-FACE ■PERMANENT LASER HAIR REMOVAL

SKIN HOTLINE 8871331 CELLPHONE 09164099312

CALL US
www.slimmersworld.com.ph
inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

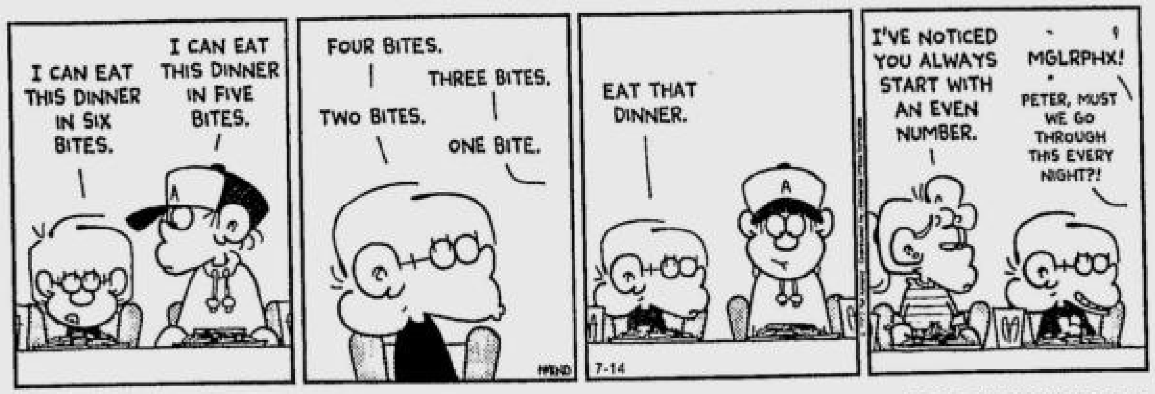
ALABANG Gemma/Tin 809-0396
BINONDO Thelma/Eliza/Yumi 242-1312
CALOOCAN Sherry/Bheng/Olive 365-7653
CEBU Ramil/Faith 231-3254
GREENHILLS Rhea 726-6505
LEGASPI VILL. Lani/Jona 893-8935
MALATE Daisy/Mhaye 536-0619
MEGAMALL Jenny/Mindy/Gina 631-3869
PASAY RD Cher/Maan 887-1335
Pasay Rd cellphone 09178515920
PASIG Lorie/Dino/Tracie 681-5333
SM NORTH Mitch 929-5429
SUBIC Beth 252-6514
TRAFALGAR Anna 814-0138

SKIN CENTER HOTLINES: ALABANG 7750587/09183912510 BINONDO 2420728/09178224399 CALOOCAN 3657653 GREENHILLS 7261526/09194986196 MALATE 5259891/09213173415 MEGAMALL 6377543/09162479753 PASAY RD. 8873530/09156893088 PASIG 6473814/09275341314

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
ComicRelief
e-mail feedback at arts@inquirer.com.ph

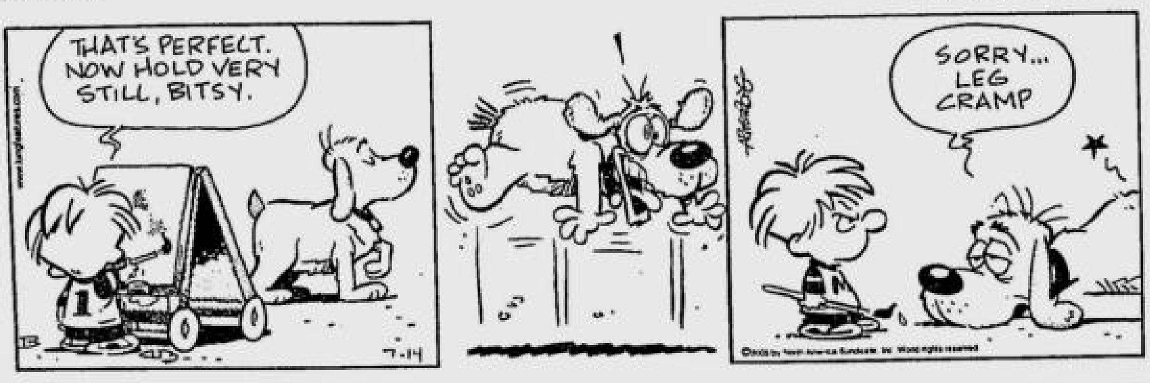
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


I CAN EAT THIS DINNER IN SIX BITES.
I CAN EAT THIS DINNER IN FIVE BITES.
FOUR BITES.
THREE BITES.
TWO BITES.
ONE BITE.
EAT THAT DINNER.
I'VE NOTICED YOU ALWAYS START WITH AN EVEN NUMBER.
MGLRPHX!
PETER, MUST WE GO THROUGH THIS EVERY NIGHT?!
7-14

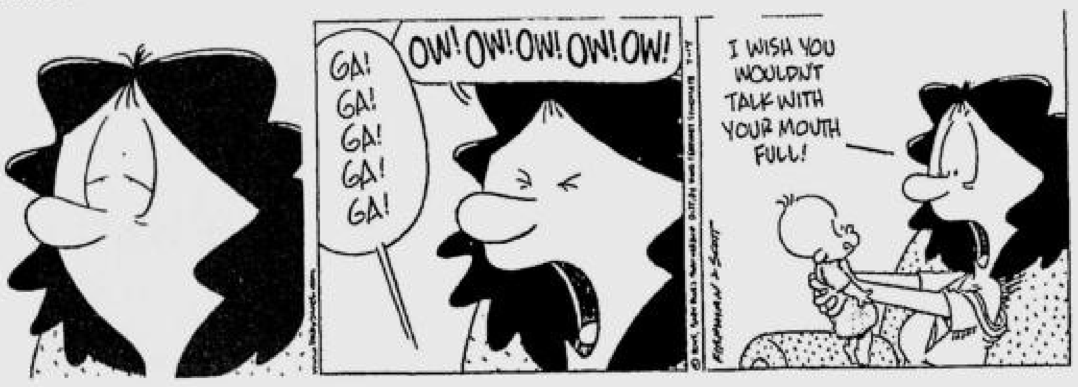
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


THAT'S PERFECT. NOW HOLD VERY STILL, BITSY.
SORRY... LEG CRAMP
7-14

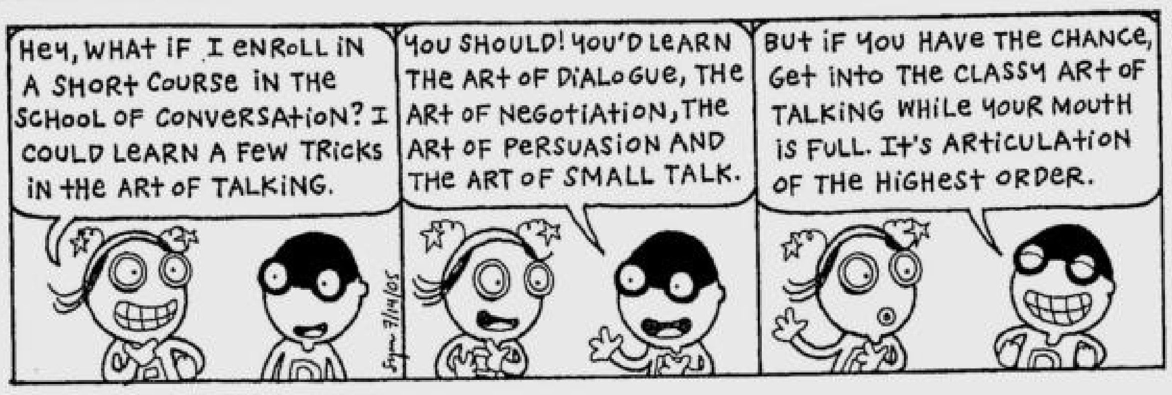
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


GA! GA! GA! GA! GA!
OW! OW! OW! OW! OW!
I WISH YOU WOULDN'T TALK WITH YOUR MOUTH FULL!

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


Hey, WHAT IF I ENROLL IN A SHORT COURSE IN THE SCHOOL OF CONVERSATION? I COULD LEARN A FEW TRICKS IN THE ART OF TALKING.
YOU SHOULD! YOU'D LEARN THE ART OF DIALOGUE, THE ART OF NEGOTIATION, THE ART OF PERSUASION AND THE ART OF SMALL TALK.
BUT IF YOU HAVE THE CHANCE, GET INTO THE CLASSY ART OF TALKING WHILE YOUR MOUTH IS FULL. IT'S ARTICULATION OF THE HIGHEST ORDER.
7/14/05

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You have an amazing influence over others, whether you try to achieve this or not. You have the skills—charm, intelligence and power of persuasion—to convince others. Most of you will use this for a higher purpose. Big issues (life and death) intrigue you. The year ahead is full of fresh starts and new beginnings. Birthdate of: Maulana Karenga, creator of Kwanzaa; Harry Dean Stanton, actor; Gerald R. Ford, 38th US president.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): This is a very powerful time for you. You can change your appearance and improve your body through exercise. Whatever you do now (especially today and tomorrow) will improve your life.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Unusual secrets might be revealed to you now. On the other hand, you might be doing something very secretive.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Group efforts can make a big difference in your life now. Your interaction with others (a friend or a group) can bring about big results.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): You're very ambitious today and tomorrow. You're willing to move mountains to achieve what you want.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Your efforts related to publishing, education and travel are very successful now. You can pull off practically anything that you want to do.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): You have the opportunity to use the resources of others, or something that somebody else owns, to make improvements in your own life now. Don't let this chance slip by.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Serious discussions with partners and close friends can improve something you care about. You might improve the relationship itself, or you might act together to improve a situation you both value.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You're willing to work very hard now to introduce reforms and improvements to your job. Ironically, you can make similar improvements to your body and your health.

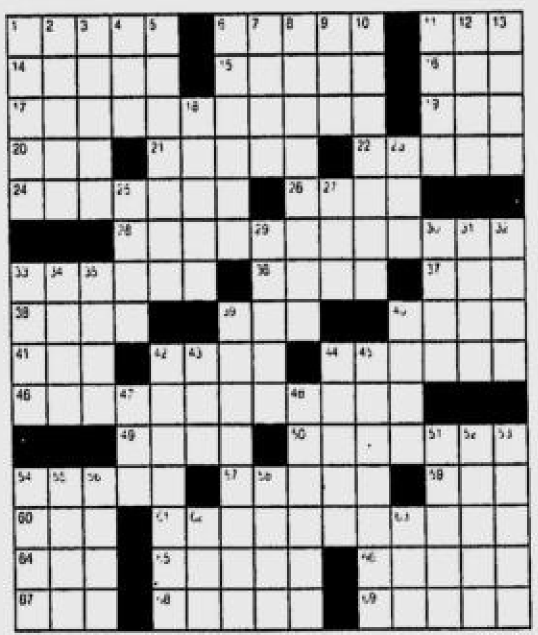
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): If you work with children, you can be effective teaching them at this time. All matters related to professional sports are beautifully blessed now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): This is an excellent time to do home repairs and renovations (especially to bathrooms).

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): You're so persuasive when talking to others now—no one can resist you. However, your aim is simply to make things better in some way.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): You have great moneymaking ideas now. (You're also spending money very quickly.) Believe in yourself. You can accomplish a lot now.

DAILY CROSSWORD

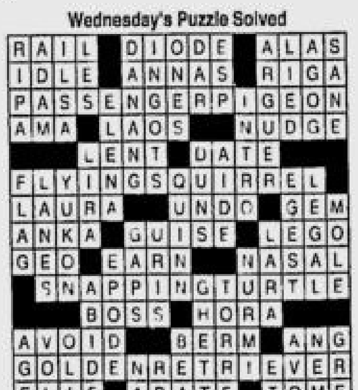


By Alan P. Olschwang
Huntington Beach, CA
7/14/05

ACROSS
1 Formulated belief
6 Belgrade populace
11 Wisc. neighbor
14 Sound reasoning
15 Characteristic
16 Dove's call
17 Beginning of Baltasar Gracian quote
19 Inning ender
20 Taylor or Torn
21 Pitcher Ryan
22 Incomes from property
24 __ Cordiale
26 Army beds
28 Part 2 of quote
33 Domenico Modugno hit
36 Tombstone marshal
37 Tip of a wingtip
38 Dictator Idi
39 Columnist Hentoff
40 __ of the above
41 Shad delicacy
42 Impoverished
44 Destroyed
46 Part 3 of quote
49 "Mona __"
50 Mixes it up, in Dogpatch
54 Louisiana cuisine
57 Leaflike plant part
59 Vein of iron
60 __ more time!
61 End of quote
64 Sch. org.
65 Ford from Tennessee
66 Covered with frost
67 Japanese capital?
68 Virginia dances
69 Smart-alecky

DOWN
1 Irish county
2 Pine-sap product
3 Neighbor of Sudan
4 Cacophony
5 Bunker portrayer
6 Fashioned
7 Ms. Bombeck
8 Foul weather protection
9 Again, in music
10 New business
11 Windows image
12 Cad
13 Builder's divisions
18 __ Dame University
23 Snaky shape
25 McGregor of "Moulin Rouge"
27 "__ Gang"
29 Decade parts
30 Harrow's rival
31 Actress Skye
32 Power input point
33 Modify
34 "Typee" sequel
35 Stead
39 Mark my words!
40 Guitarist Lofgren
42 Manet or Monet
43 Switch positions
44 Extend
45 Irish overcoats
47 Actor Gulager
48 Chatters
51 Towers (over)
52 Marine fliers
53 Shabby
54 Facsimile
55 Feed the pot
56 Anouilh or Arp
58 Seethe
62 Otto I's realm
63 Narrow inlet

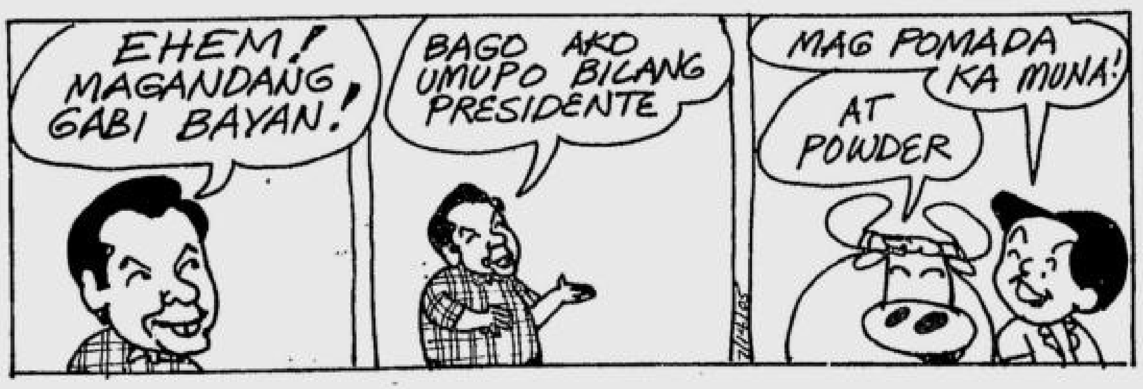
Wednesday's Puzzle Solved


RAIL DIODE ALAS
IDLE ANNAS RIGA
PASSENGERPIGEON
AMA LAOS NUDGE
LENT DATE
FLYINGSQUIRREL
LAURA UNDO GEM
ANKA GUISE LEGO
GEO EARN NASAL
SNAPPINGTURTLE
BOSS HORA
AVOID BERM ANG
GOLDENRETRIEVER
ELIE ABATE TOME
DENS MINOS SNOW

(C)2005 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved
7/14/05

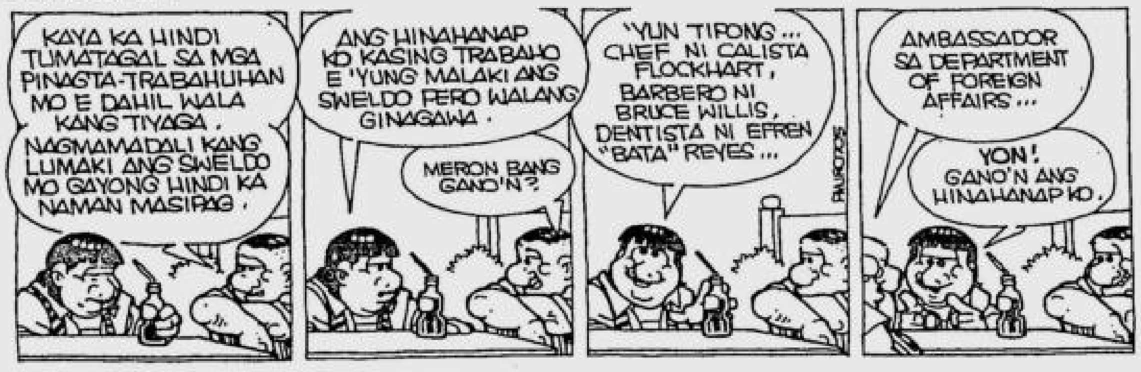
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


EHEM! MAGANDANG GABI BAYAN!
BAGO AKO UMUPO BILANG PRESIDENTE
MAG POMADA KA MUNA!
AT POWDER
7/14/05

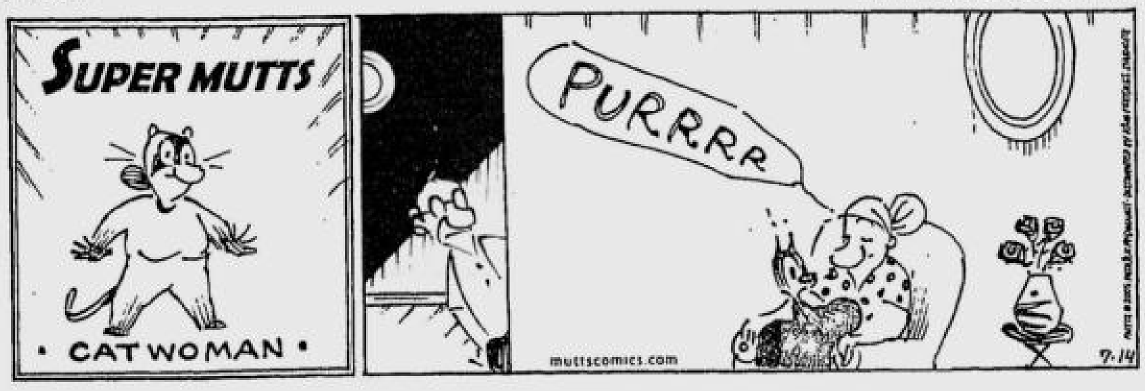
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


KAYA KA HINDI TUMATAGAL SA MGA PINAGTA-TRABAHUHAN MO E DAHIL WALA KANG TIYAGA. NAGMAMADALI KANG LUMAKI ANG SWELDO MO GAYONG HINDI KA NAMAN MASIPAG.
ANG HINAHANAP KO KASING TRABAHO E 'YUNG MALAKI ANG SWELDO PERO WALANG GINAGAWA.
MERON BANG GANO'N?
'YUN TIPONG... CHEF NI CALISTA FLOCKHART, BARBERO NI BRUCE WILLIS, DENTISTA NI EFREN "BATA" REYES...
AMBASSADOR SA DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS...
YON! GANO'N ANG HINAHANAP KO.

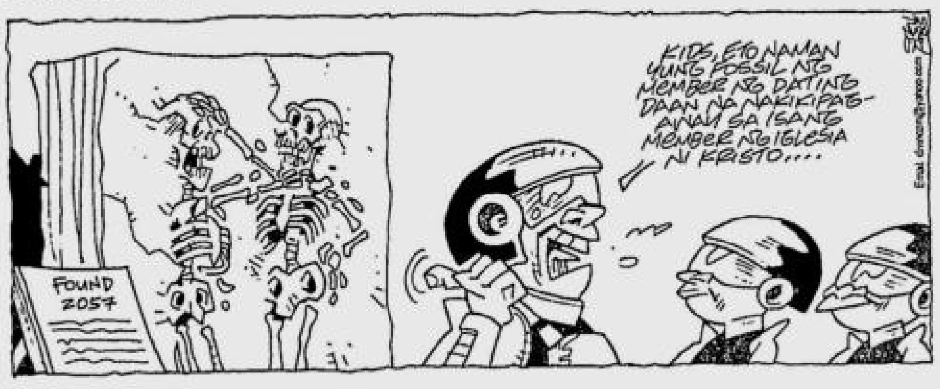
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


SUPER MUTTS
• CATWOMAN •
PURRRR
mutts comics.com
7-14

DIVINE COMEDY

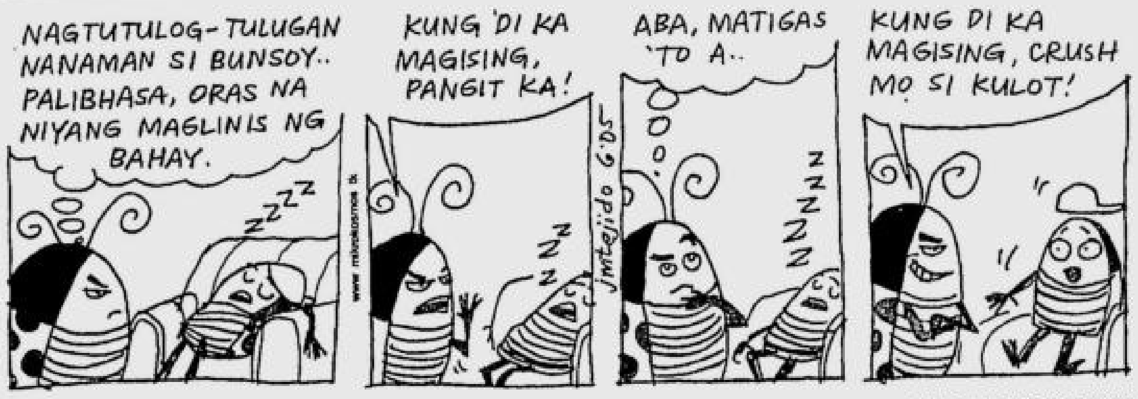
BY STEVEN PABALINAS


KIDS, ETO NAMAN YUNG FOSSIL NG MEMBER NG DATING DAAN NA NAKIKIPAG-AWAY SA ISANG MEMBER NG IGLESIA NI KRISTO....
FOUND 2057

A FUTURE ARCHEO-LOGICAL FIND

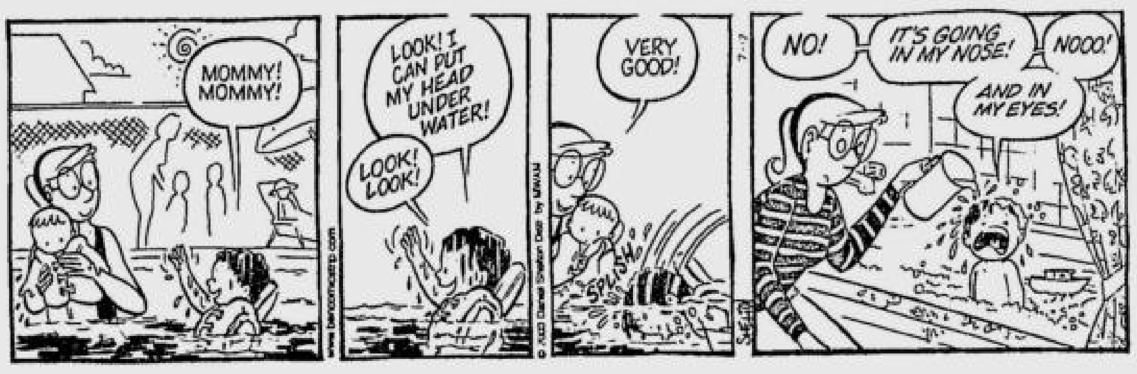
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


NAGTUTULOG-TULUGAN NANAMAN SI BUNSOY.. PALIBHASA, ORAS NA NIYANG MAGLINIS NG BAHAY.
ZZZZ
KUNG 'DI KA MAGISING, PANGIT KA!
ABA, MATIGAS 'TO A..
KUNG DI KA MAGISING, CRUSH MO SI KULOT!

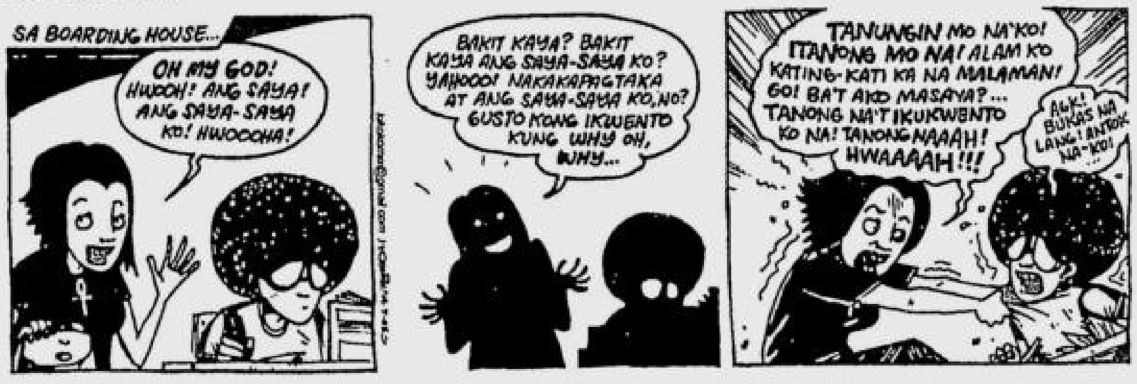
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


MOMMY! MOMMY!
LOOK! I CAN PUT MY HEAD UNDER WATER!
LOOK! LOOK!
VERY GOOD!
NO!
IT'S GOING IN MY NOSE!
NOOO!
AND IN MY EYES!

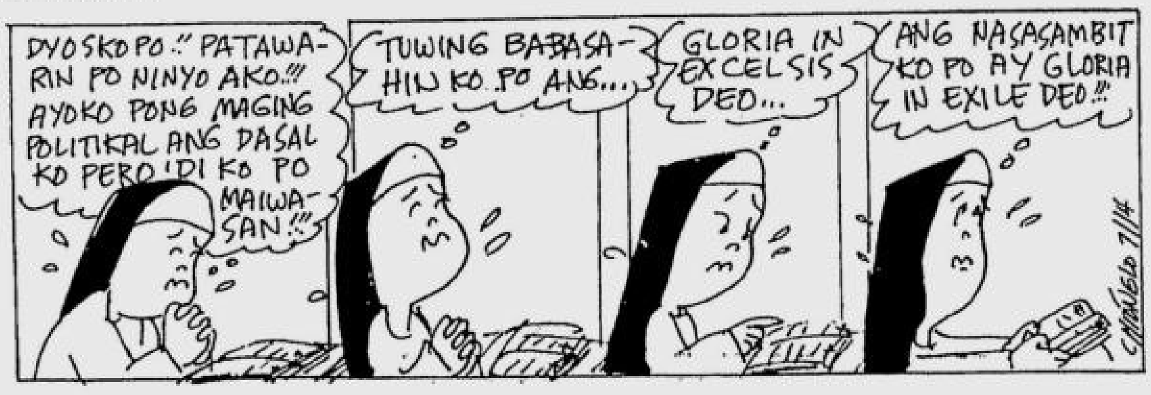
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


SA BOARDING HOUSE...
OH MY GOD! HWOOH! ANG SAYA! ANG SAYA-SAYA KO! HWOOOHA!
BAKIT KAYA? BAKIT KAYA ANG SAYA-SAYA KO? YAHOOO! NAKAKAPAGTAKA AT ANG SAYA-SAYA KO, NO? GUSTO KONG IKUWENTO KUNG WHY OH, WHY...
TANUNGIN MO NA'KO! ITANONG MO NA! ALAM KO KATING-KATI KA NA MALAMAN! GO! BA'T AKO MASAYA?... TANONG NA'T IKUKWENTO KO NA! TANONG NAAAH! HWAAAAH!!!
ACK! BUKAS NA LANG! ANTOK NA KO!

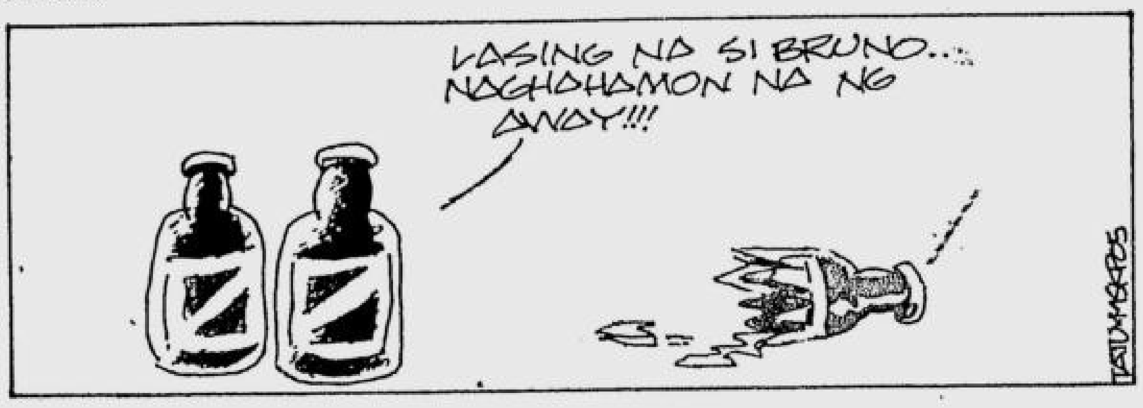
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


DYOSKO PO!! PATAWARIN PO NINYO AKO!!! AYOKO PONG MAGING POLITIKAL ANG DASAL KO PERO 'DI KO PO MAIWASAN!!!
TUWING BABASAHIN KO PO ANG...
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO...
ANG NASASAMBIT KO PO AY GLORIA IN EXILE DEO!!!
CHIONGLO 7/14

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


LASING NA SI BRUNO... NAGHAHAMON NA NG AWAY!!!

BSP warns establishments that don't accept coins

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron

FROM TIME to time, I receive complaints from shoppers and moviegoers about cashiers who don't give out exact change to customers. The old racket was to give customers candies instead of coins, which they seemed to be short of most of the time.

Obviously, they should have stopped doing this when the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) flooded the market with coins. According to my informant at BSP, new sets of coins are released every year.

But lately, cashiers seem to have gone back to their old ways, not bothering to give customers their due change, especially if it is just five or ten centavos. What's more, based on complaints I am receiving, some cashiers would not even accept coins as payment.

Recently, for example, Lifestyle writer Vangie Baga-Reyes said a cashier at the toll gate of North Luzon Expressway refused to accept 10 centavo coins for the toll fee.

If I may add to that, I remember a taxi driver who became rude when I paid him in ten and five peso coins. The BSP complaints desk also has received reports about tricycle drivers who refuse to accept as payment from passengers coins in small denominations.

We get by e-mail this usual complaint: "Cashiers at the grocery section of a drugstore chain in our neighborhood seem to be in the habit of shortchanging their customers. It happened to me twice and each time, I demanded for the exact change. I advise consumers to watch the cash machines and count their change before leaving the counter."

Coin crusade

The BSP couldn't have thought of a more timely campaign than to remind the public of the importance of coins. Although it is still in the planning stage, I would like to tell readers about it this early.

BSP's latest respect-the-centavo campaign, according to a BSP informant, will be called "Ang Barya ay Mahalaga." Part of the plan is to encourage students to collect coins. The campaign will also remind consumers they have the right to demand exact change and acceptance of coins as mode of payment.

"The Philippines' small coins in denominations of one, five, 10, and 25 centavos are legal tenders and, hence, it is illegal to reject them as mode of payment," warned Director Fe de la Cruz of the BSP corporate communications office.

She added that cashiers of business establishments had no excuse to say they were short of coins. The BSP purposely circulated new coins every year, de la Cruz concluded.

By the way, the banks are supposed to accept old and tattered bills. So if you happen to have what are described as "unfit" bills, go to the nearest bank and exchange them for new ones. But there are some guidelines. Write to the Corporate Affairs Office, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, BSP Bldg., Vito Cruz, Manila, to get the guidelines.

Dogs in malls

Some weeks ago, Cocoy Lizardo sent an e-mail relating her traumatic experience with the canine security in a mall. The dog grabbed the bottled water she was holding, barely missing her face.

Here's a follow-up from Lizardo: "I was at the same mall (recently) and about to enter Starbucks when I heard the lady guard warning a lady customer to (hide) her water bottle, and pointed to the canine at the security check area.

"When I asked the guard about the warning, she replied that the sniffing dog grabbed water bottles. I was shocked to know that the same dog that grabbed my bottle was still in the mall... That dog must not be assigned to commercial areas where people commonly buy and carry bottled water!"

ABCs of baking, waitering and bartending

MAYA Kitchen is offering basic courses to prepare individuals for jobs in the food industry.

"Basic Baking" will be conducted 1:30-5:30 p.m., July 26-29. It will cover the preparation of different types of bread dough, quickbreads, pastry dough and cookies, cakes and ready mixes. Participants get a free cookbook.

"Basic Waitering and Bartending" will be conducted 9 a.m.-4 p.m., July 23 and 30. It covers basic setup, techniques of suggestive selling, proper serving and bussing, napkin folding and skirting, bar tools and glass ware, classification of wine and spirits and simple garnish, with actual mixing of cocktail drinks and wine tasting.

Maya Kitchen is at 8/L, Liberty Building, A. Arnaiz Avenue (formerly Pasay Road), Makati City. Call (Tuesday-Saturday) 8921185 or 8925011 loc. 108, or e-mail mkitchen@ultilmate.info.com.ph.

Ice cream contest holds elimination July 22

THE ELIMINATION round for this year's Nestlé Ice Cream Scoopetition will be held July 22 at the Julius Maggi Kitchen.

Participating in the three-round competition are College of St. Benilde, Philippine Women's University (PWU), St. Paul University Manila, St. Paul University Quezon City, St. Scholastica's College and University of Santo Tomas (UST).

Each school will be represented by two Hotel and Restaurant Management students. The participants will prepare original ice cream recipes.

In the elimination round, contestants will be required to create an ice cream beverage in 10 minutes. The recipes must consist of 50-percent Nestlé Ice Cream.

St. Benilde's Michelle Santiago-Ong will prepare Strawberry Cream Soda with Champagne Fruit Base, while Esperanza Sarmiento will make Twist of Ginger. St. Paul Manila students Andrea La Verne Vasquez and Carmel Uriarte Cruz are serving Green Karambola Mango Shake and Pink Slash, respectively. St. Paul QC's Katrina Anna Yao's recipe is Cucumber and Papaya Smoothie with Tea, while Crescentia Marie Chua's is Zeri-Fruits Smoothie.

PWU's Alvin Andrara is presenting Rainbow Cooler and Ador Paulo Domingo, Pretty Pink. St. Scholastica's Florence Ponferrada and Leeroi D.M. Cordero are preparing Pine-Nana-Mango Paradise Smoothie and Peach Rhum Fizzes, respectively. From UST, Rachelle Ann Garcia Manuel will have Oatmeal and Fruits Smoothie while Laura Angelica Maldia Ramos has Ocabama Shake.

The best six will move to the semifinals on July 29 at Nestlé Rockwell. Contestants will prepare 20-minute ice cream desserts. Only three will participate in the final round on August 6 at the World Food Expo (Wofex), World Trade Center.

The Nestlé Ice Cream Scoopetition grand champion will receive P15,000 while the adviser will get P7,500. Runners-up and their advisers will also receive cash prizes. Other participants will get consolation prizes.

Appetizers, beans and pulses

THE REGGIE Aspiras School of Culinary Arts is conducting the following classes:

July 15—Fancy Appetizers (all new)—Whole Baked Foie Gras, with condiments; Dips of Spinach, two kinds; Mousse of Chicken Liver; Cheese-based Spreads—Pesto, Garlic and Herb and Goat Cheese with Tomatoes and Fruit; Home-baked Breadsticks and Foccacia Chips

July 16—Sizzling! (all new)—Burger Steak, Chicken Steak, Pork Chop Steak, Sizzling Angus Steak with Mushroom Gravy, Tuna Teriyaki; Bonus—Java Rice, Angus Rice, Salpicao

July 18—Beans and Pulses (all new)—Cassoulet with Duck Confit, Delicious Monggo with Lechon Kawali, Lentejas de Lujo, Fabada de Lujo, Whole Roast Pork and Beans, Delicious Beef Ribs with Raisins; side dishes

July 20—Cooking with Torani (all new)—Cream Soup of Caramel Roasted Squash, Carrots and Potatoes with Bacon and Apple Crisps; Salads with dressings of kiwi, mixed berry, sesame seed and ginger, coconut, balsamic and strawberry, and macadamia; Assorted Roasts with sauces—ginger, raspberry, fresh mango chutney and gravy

Call 9289296, 9273008, 6335162 and 0917-8399888.

Super snack combos

POPEYES Chicken and Seafood offers "A+ Super Snacks" available 2-6 p.m. until July 30.

The combos include Crunchy Chicken, P55; Funky Fries, P35; Saucy-Spaghetti, P45; Crispy Chicken Strips, P55; the Ooh!-Onion Rings, P39; and Biscuit a la Mode, P39. All come with a regular soda.

Popeyes Chicken and Seafood stores are at Greenhills; Robinson's Galleria, Ermita and Metro East; New Farmers Plaza, Cubao; and SM City Pampanga.

The Joy of Indulging

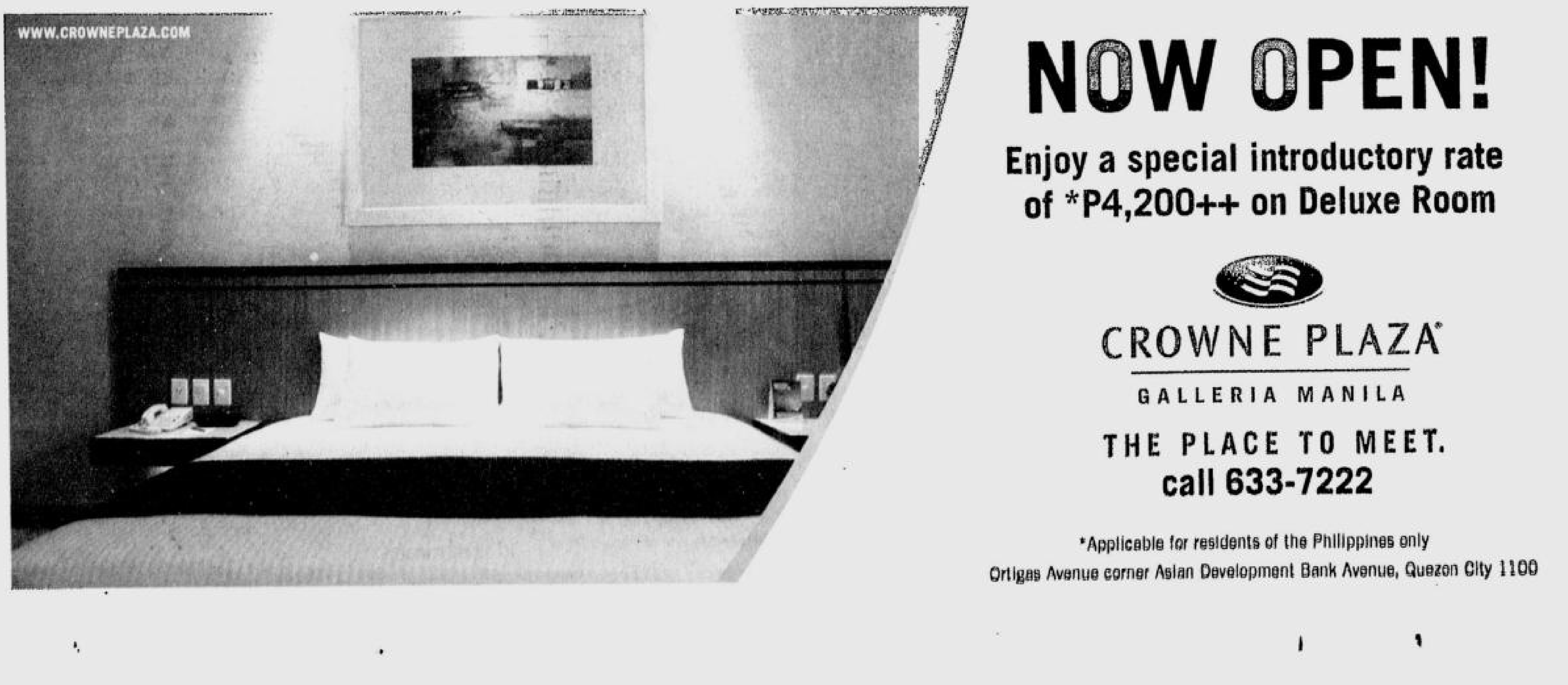
1 Khao Chae Muang Phet 2 Traditional Thai cuisine 3 Chaeng-lon 4 Phuket FantaSea restaurant* 5 Khanom Khrok Song Khueang 6 Tamarind Spa at Banyan Tree* 7 Thai desserts

A banquet awaits you amid great surroundings. Spice up your travel with a taste of authentic Thai cuisine. Savor flavors.

You'll find no other place on Earth quite like Thailand.

* Photos courtesy of Phuket FantaSea and Banyan Tree.

TOURISM AUTHORITY OF THAILAND



WWW.CROWNEPLAZA.COM

NOW OPEN!

Enjoy a special introductory rate of *P4,200++ on Deluxe Room

CROWNE PLAZA
GALLERIA MANILA
THE PLACE TO MEET.
call 633-7222

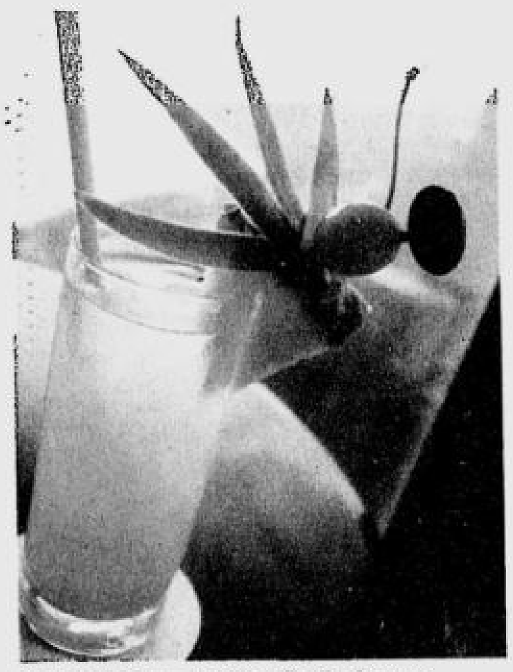
*Applicable for residents of the Philippines only
Ortigas Avenue corner Asian Development Bank Avenue, Quezon City 1100

Showcase of Cuban food and music

CAFÉ Havana Greenbelt reopens with Bienvenida Al Café La Habana until tomorrow, a celebration of Cuban-themed food and music. The resto-bar features its bandas de la casa and All You Can Eat lunch and dinner buffets. The buffet spread features gambas, soup and salad combo, Lechon Cubano, Caribbean Salmon with Mango Mambo Salsa, Encendido Stew, Pollo a la Pobre, Sisig Paella Lorenzo, Prawns in Crab Fat, Guayaba Pie, Fidel's Smokeless Cigar, Crepes Samurai, Blueberry Cheesecake, Canonigo with Mango Balls and Frutas Tropicales. Call 7574370 to 71.

DINING OUT

THE WESTIN Philippine Plaza's Café Plaza Too offers Sugar-Free Desserts this month. The buffet includes cheesecakes, mousses and dark chocolates like Mango Cheesecake, Dark Chocolate Almond, Cashew Nuts Cluster, Fresh Fruit Jello in Aloe Vera, Cherry White Forest Cake and Mixed Berries Panacotta. Call 5515555.



MANILA Diamond Hotel's Sky Lounge features Ami San, a concoction of coconut rum, vodka, triple sec, grenadine and orange juice, as its cocktail of the month. Call 5283000.

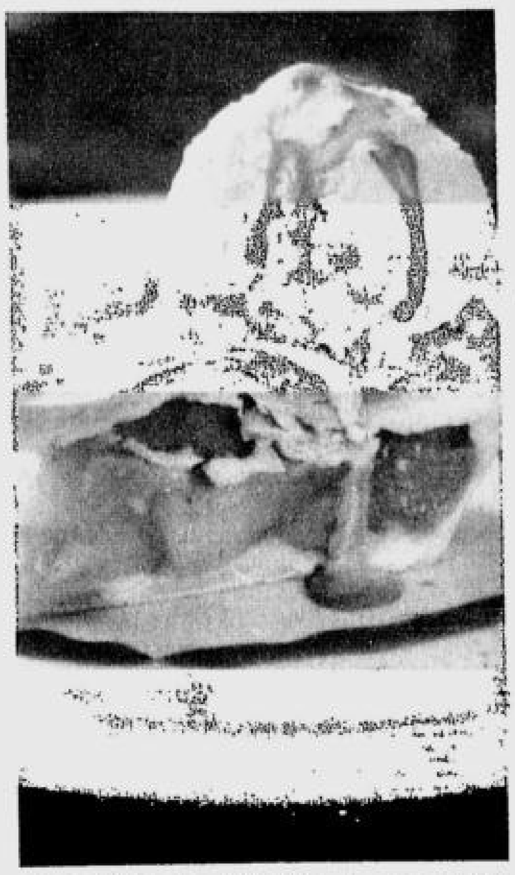
THE PENINSULA Manila Lobby serves four flavors of chocolate dessert fondues until July 30. These are Classic Peninsula Dark Chocolate, Chocolate Irish blended with Bailey's Cream, Swiss Chocolate spiced with Kirsch and Belgian Milk Chocolate. These are served with a side dish of fresh fruit, marshmallows, chocolate cigars and cakes for dipping. Call 8872888.

THE HERITAGE Hotel Manila presents The Heritage Grand Buffet for lunch and dinner daily until July 31. Featured are Beef and Bell Pepper Salad, Mussel with Citrus Dressing, Boston Clam Chowder, Pumpkin Soup with Lemongrass and Cinnamon, Rib Eye, Short Plate Marinated with Herb, Top Blade Marinated with Garlic, Marinated Chicken in Cajun Spice, Grilled Tuna Steak with Corn Salsa and Apple Pie and Pumpkin Pie. Call 8548888.

MANILA Pavilion Hotel's Patisserie offers Beehive Cake for July. The cake is made up of two layers—a pistachio-flavored sponge with honey cream and white chocolate glaze on top. Call 5261212.

CHATEAU 1771 presents the chef's suggested menus. Signature No Borders Cuisine features Salmon Pillows, Beef Salad Pinoy Style, Lemon Chicken, Pasta Chorizo, Butterflied Prawns, Grilled Leeks and Carrots. Asian Gourmet Group has Shrimp and Salmon Spring Rolls, Garlic Consomme Soup, Steamed Philippine Sea Bass, Garlic Chicken, Braised Beef Short Ribs, BBQ Eggplant, Broccoli in Essence. Italian Flavors includes Rustic Tomato Soup, Grilled Vegetable Salad, Beef Osso Bucco, Mushroom Penne, Chicken Piccata, Gratinated Squash, Asparagus with Parmesan Cheese. European Delight offers Gratinated Scallops, Swiss-Italian Raclette, Chateau Seafppd Soup, Hunter's Chicken, Peppered Beef Medallions, Maya Maya in Green Jackets. Call 6317341.

CHOKOY'S Playground has three dining outlets. Barko offers Barkada Blowout or special rates for a group of 10-25. Sea-Okoy Diver's Bistro features fresh seafoods. Scuba enthusiasts get 10-percent discount on drinks. Chokoy's Pet, Dog Lover's Café and Snack Bar showcases master and dog menu. Chokoy's Playground is located along Kalayaan Avenue, QC.



DISCOVERY Suites' Café Berrio presents A Star Spangled Affair this July. The set menu for lunch and dinner features New Hampshire Pumpkin Soup, Harvest Salad, California Seafood Cioppino, Southern BBQ Baby Back Ribs, New York Steak, Granny Smith Apple Pie a la Mode. Call 6352222.

MARINA Restaurant serves Ilonggo food like Angel Wings Shaped Shell, Prawns, Sea Bass, Cat Fish, Inasal na Bangus sa dahon ng saging, Binakol, Tinu-um na Manok, Laswa na KBL, Special La Paz Batchoy, Pata Soup, Mixed Noodles, Crispy Wasabi Oysters. Marina Restaurant is located in Timog Avenue, QC; Ortigas-Amethyst and Ortigas-Pearl Plaza; Jupiter, Makati; Roxas Boulevard; Glorietta 4, Makati; and Market! Market!

UNVEILING **the new adventure: Aloysius Santos, Henry Go and Joaquin Rodriguez Sr.**

Pizza chain opens new branch

THE CALIFORNIA Pizza Kitchen (CPK) ASAP has opened at the Promenade, Greenhills Shopping Center.

CPK executives, including Archie Rodriguez, regional director for Asia and the Pacific Carlos Delgado, and incorporators Manuel Zubiri, Griffith Go, Al Santos, Jack Rodriguez Sr., Ricci Santos and Henry T. Go, welcomed guests during the opening of CPK ASAP.

CPK ASAP offers a wide selection of sandwiches, including Hot Grilled Chicken Focaccia, Roasted Turkey Breast Focaccia, Tuna Salad and Chicken Salad; pastas and salads. Among its popular pizza flavors are the Jamaican Jerk, Thai Chicken and the new White Pizza.

CPK ASAP is owned and operated by Global Restaurant Concepts Inc. (GRCI), licensed franchisee of CPK. GRCI also operates CPK Glorietta 3, CPK Alabang Town Center, CPK Shangri-La Mall and CPK Tomas Morato.

I want shades.
You need eyeglasses.
PSBank MasterCard.
Strictly family matters.
Call 8-700-772.
PSBank

PDI FAMILY RECIPE CONTEST

Share your culinary secrets

SEND in your favorite family recipe and help us in preserving and promoting Filipino cuisine. The PDI Family Recipe Contest, co-sponsored by SM Supermarket, Imarflex and Reggie Aspiras School of Culinary Arts and San Miguel Purefoods Culinary Center, will pick three winners every week. The recipes will be published in a book to commemorate INQUIRER's 20th anniversary in December. Here are the rules:

1. In 250 words or fewer, tell us about a Filipino dish that has been cooked and served in your family through the years. It should be a dish that mostly features locally grown and locally produced ingredients and highlights traditional/local cooking techniques. Also, tell us (1) who in your family first cooked and served the recipe; (2) how many generations have cooked it; (3) when it is usually cooked and served; and (4) why it is special to the family.
2. Submit a photo of this family dish and a step-by-step written recipe. Include your name, address, daytime telephone number and e-mail address, if any. Photos will not be returned.
3. The recipe must not have been previously published or entered in any other contest. The accompanying essay must be your own original work, and the subject matter must be true.
4. Readers may submit more than one entry but can only win once. Entries will not be acknowledged or returned. INQUIRER is not responsible for late or misdirected entries.
5. Entries should be mailed or hand-delivered to PDI Family Recipe Contest, c/o Lifestyle, Philippine Daily INQUIRER, 1098 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City 1263, or e-mailed to recipes@inquirer.com.ph. Photo attachment to e-mailed entries must be in jpeg format.
6. Three weekly winners will be picked every Monday and the recipes published on the Thursday of the following week.
7. The top weekly winner will receive P2,000 worth of SM gift checks that will be honored at any SM Supermarket. Two runners-up will get a gift from Imarflex or a class of choice at the Reggie Aspiras School of Culinary Arts. No substitutions or transfers of prizes by the winners will be allowed. Sponsors may substitute a prize of equal or greater value.
8. Submission of an entry grants INQUIRER the exclusive right (but not the obligation) to publish, edit and/or copy the entry for any and all purposes in any media without further compensation to the entrant.
9. This contest is open to INQUIRER readers 18 years of age and older, except INQUIRER employees and members of their immediate families.
10. Judging will be done by the Lifestyle food section staff, whose decisions are final.

stock-up sale DINNERWARE
big selections at stock-up prices
now thru July 31, 2005
12-pc WHITE PORCELAIN dinner set, assorted designs SPECIALS 250/set
HIRA 16-pc stoneware set with blue bands SPECIALS 300/set
CORELLE
a. 16-pc Urban Red dinnerware set
b. 16-pc Spearmint dinnerware set SAVE 20%
N. Edsa / Ortigas / Makati / Las Pinas / Cubao
16-pc porcelain dinner set, assorted designs SPECIALS 300/set
MULTIPLE CHOICE 5-pc ceramic dinner set SAVE 20%
Buy 2 sets at 179.75/set
N. Edsa / Ortigas / Makati / Las Pinas / Harrison / Manila / Sta. Mesa / Cubao / Pampanga
Handpainted ceramic plates Your choice at 10.00 / 15.00 / 20.00 / 25.00 / 35.00
Get a FREE Mug
SM HOMEWORLD
We've got it all for you!
QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PINAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA
MANDURRIAO • CEBU • DAVAO • CAGAYAN DE ORO • BICUTAN • LUCENA • BAGUIO • MARILAO • DASMARINAS • BATANGAS • DELGADO
Per DTI-NCR Permit No.4057 Series of 2005

A no-nonsense cookbook

From page C1

The menu is interesting! Best part: Meat and seafood will be cooked in their wood-fired oven! Fireplace specializes in meat of all sorts as well as seafood, from all over the world—Kobe, Australian and US Black Angus beef, lamb. Your appetite must wait a while though. The Fireplace opens in August (tel, 2451234).

Odds and ends

I am opening a store that specializes in food-to-go. I am looking for a stuffed *pan de sal* supplier. Would you know anyone?

G.R.

Yup! Yup! And they're splendid at what they do! Call Jack Colet of Purple Oven (6314221, 9101363 to 65). They make and can custom make anything for you— breads, cakes, doughnuts, *ensaimada*, croissants. They currently supply the biggest coffee shop chains, restaurants, cafés and convenience stores. Best part is, if you call in advance, they can service your needs, even if it's just one piece of cake.

Salted Eggs?

STEPHEN UY

Got this text and wasn't sure what to make of it. Found it too cute that I had to reply. I hope that you are requesting for a salted egg recipe, Stephen. Got this delicious recipe from my very good friend Nelia Silverio, whose dad once owned a legion of egg-laying ducks!

Itlog na maalat

15 duck eggs (Aranque Market or Lolita's Farmers by order through tel. 9112567)
1 kilo rock salt
Water

Lay eggs in a stock pot. Pour rock salt. Add enough water to cover eggs. Cover with lid and leave in a cool and dark place for 15 days. Do not open.

After 15 days you have ducklings! No, seriously, after 15 days, remove eggs from salt solution. Cook the eggs in boiling water, as you would hard boiled eggs. Add food color to water if you wish.

Naimbag nga aldaw kaniayo. No mabalin kuma ag requesak no kasano agaramed te lumpia wrapper.

PERCIVAL T. GUERRERO
Amas Kidapawan

I am giving you 2 recipes, one is standard and more of the traditional type, and the other, more like a crepe. And to you, Percival, as we Ilokanos would say, "Bon appetit and enjoy!"

Lumpia Wrapper

(Recipe 1)
1 c flour
1 c water
(Recipe 2)
½ c each cornstarch and flour
1 large egg or 2 small
¾ c fresh milk
¼ c water

Combine ingredients and whisk until smooth. Heat a crepe pan, brush with oil and pour or brush mixture on pan, working fast. Make sure heat is not too high so as not to discolor wrapper. If you want a thicker wrapper, add more flour.

For questions and comments text 0917-8399888.